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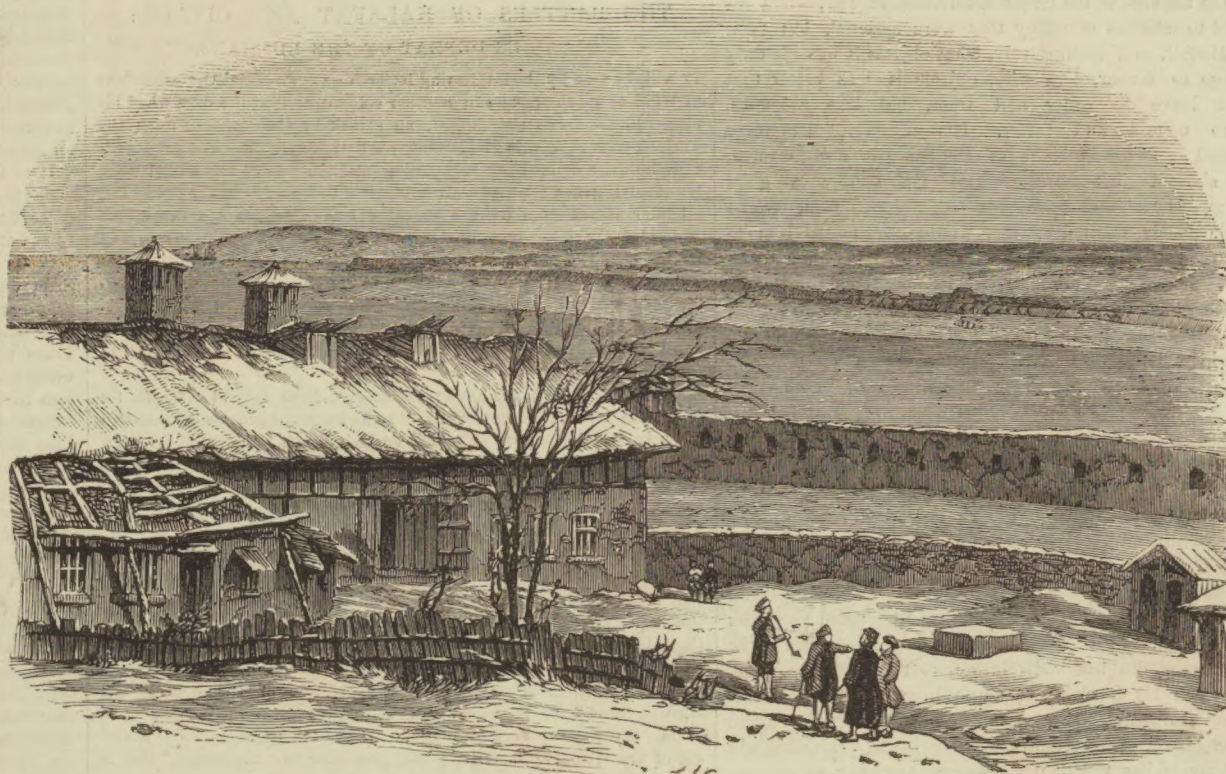
SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1854.

[WITH A SUPPLEMENT, SIXPENCE.]

THE PRINCE CONSORT.

WE have hitherto purposely abstained from making the slightest allusion or giving the least currency to the reports that, for the last six or seven weeks, have been industriously circulated in the Press and in society relative to H.R.H. the Prince Consort. But the time has at length arrived when it is no longer desirable—even if it were possible—to keep silence upon the subject. If, by our notice of them, the accusations of which the illustrious Prince has been the object could penetrate into any wider circles than those which they have already reached, we should deem it a matter alike of delicacy and of duty to refrain from giving their authors the advantage of our pages for the propagation of their slanders, even although the refutation went side by side with the falsehood. But the calumnies against the Prince have been so long and loudly blazoned abroad—from the pot-houses and the pot-house journals in which they originated, to the Clubs and places of public resort, and from thence to the columns of almost every newspaper in the country—that our silence is no longer necessary.

The man who has the high honour of being the husband of a Queen Regnant of a country like England, stands in an exalted, and, therefore, in a perilous position. If any one be obliged to walk warily, it is he. To no individual who stands is the precept that he should "take heed lest he fall," so applicable as to him. Too lofty to be strictly a subject—too powerful in the secrecy of his home, to be safely trusted with power in the Senate or the Cabinet—too nearly allied to the Crown to be quite dependent upon its favour, or to be quite independent of all that concerns its honour and dignity—he is surrounded on every side with difficulties and anomalies. He is placed too high to have any objects of ambition, such as those which captivate the minds or quicken the energies of other men. Wealth and title can have no attractions to his mind. He has the highest of all title; and if he have not wealth enough to satisfy him, no effort he can make, can procure him any increase to it. His pretensions can interfere



DISTANT VIEW OF KALAFAT, FROM THE COURT-YARD OF THE PACHA'S RESIDENCE, AT WIDDIN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)



PLAN OF THE BATTLE OF KALAFAT, AND THE RETREAT OF THE RUSSIANS TO KRAJOVA.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

with no man's advancement. His functions are so entirely non-political and ornamental, that if any office be bestowed upon him, it is that the office may be honoured by his acceptance of it—and not that he may thereby acquire any additional rank or importance. And yet, though so little is allowed him to do, much is expected of him. By custom and consent, if not by the Constitution of this country, he is the first and most honoured subject of the Crown. By the Christian law—and by the law of domestic affection—he is the head and chief of the most illustrious family in the land; and the Queen of Great Britain is as much his subject, as every other happy and dutiful wife is the subject of the lord and husband whom she has selected. If his hand be too much seen in social life, and if he manifest too lively an interest in the affairs that take place around him, he will be reckoned a meddler who oversteps his province; if it be too little seen, and if he does not sympathise with the world in which he lives, he will be accounted a simpleton or a nobody. The amiable Prince, whom the Queen of the greatest empire in the world freely chose for her husband, understood all these things. He felt both the delicacy and the difficulty of his position on the one side, and its responsibility and dignity on the other. Of necessity a stranger, he made it his first duty to become an Englishman—to study our feelings, our habits, and our virtues, that he might in all things become a model to English gentlemen and to English society. So admirably did he comprehend his duties, and so gracefully did he perform them, that, next to the Queen herself, he became the most popular person in her dominions. His public appearances were few, but they were always judicious. He never advocated a cause which it was not proper that he should countenance; but always—as in the case of the Great Exhibition of 1851—lent his powerful aid to schemes of utility that were national, but non-political. He felt, as if instinctively, what objects it was his duty and privilege to favour, and what objects it was better that he should leave to other and freer, but less splendid, agencies, to uphold and foster. His remarks, whenever he addressed an assemblage of Englishmen and women, invariably showed that he possessed not simply a good head but a good heart, and gave proofs of abilities that, had he been born in a less exalted station, would have raised him to eminence and honour. No one breathed a syllable in his disparagement. For his own sake, as well as for that of the Queen, he was esteemed and beloved by all classes. It was felt that, whatever the Royal families of other states of Europe might be, England had the happiness of possessing in Queen Victoria and Prince Albert models of domestic virtue and of public usefulness.

But it has pleased some malignant—or, perhaps, merely thoughtless—persons to set rumours afloat with respect to his Royal Highness which have a tendency to diminish his well-earned popularity, if they have not already accomplished that undesirable end. The accusations, at first vague and unmeaning, gradually shaped themselves into something like consistency. It was at first asserted that nothing could account for the dismissal of Lord Palmerston from office two years ago, but the enmity of Prince Albert to that statesman. The whispers, however, did not swell into a roar on that occasion. It was only when his Lordship announced, some weeks ago, his determination to withdraw from the Ministry that they again began to be heard. A certain class of political quidnuncs and pot-house busy-bodies could not imagine anything so preposterous as that Lord Palmerston should be capricious; or that he should be guilty, once or twice in his life, of an error of judgment; but they could imagine easily enough that Prince Albert should have a personal ill-will to the object of their adoration, and that he should forfeit the good opinion entertained of him, and which had been steadily increasing for twelve years, by exercising political power in an underhand and unworthy manner. They, therefore, explained Lord Palmerston's resignation in their own fashion, and without a shadow of proof began to accuse the Prince of unconstitutional intermeddling in the affairs of State. They broadly hinted that the husband of the Queen was the enemy of England—that he betrayed State secrets to foreign Powers; and, that while the responsible Ministers of the Crown were endeavouring to support the cause of Turkey, he, the irresponsible adviser of his wife, was doing his best to betray that cause, and to serve the interests of the Emperor of Russia. The utter improbability of such charges signified nothing to the hot-brained partisans who made them. The accusation, once set in motion, rapidly acquired impetus. To journals that administer to the coarse tastes of the tap-room, such slanders against a personage so distinguished were in the highest degree welcome. There is nothing so intelligible and, we are sorry to say, so popular as scandal. It is not every one who can talk politics. Few can converse well upon the drama, the sciences, or the fine arts. Questions involving literary taste and scholarship do not greatly interest the masses; and, though all understand the great and daily topic of the weather, it is a topic that is apt to lose its favour. Not so immortal Scandal! A piece of slander never tires either the great or the little vulgar. It is always acceptable, either at the club or at the tea-table—at the tavern or in the beer-shop. It taxes no man's brains to grapple with its intricacies; and the more lofty the position of the slandered person, the more keenly it is relished. Besides, as everybody knows, slander is a very marketable commodity to struggling newspapers that desire to thrust themselves into notoriety. The cowardly nature of the assaults against the Prince's character was never allowed to deter the utterers of such stories. The Prince could not reply to them. Had it been Mr. Brown or Mr. Jones, or any other companion of Mr. Doyle's Tour, who had been maligned, the Courts of Law might have been appealed to. Had it even been Lord Palmerston who had been the victim of misrepresentation, his Lordship might have stooped from his lofty eminence and demolished by a breath the flimsy superstructure raised by his assailants. The Prince Consort was not in so enviable a position. He was too far above the anonymous slanderers even to be aware of their existence; and it is likely that their stories had been for many weeks in circulation before his Royal Highness had any knowledge of them. The taunt of the Rev. Sydney Smith's against Sir Robert Peel seems to have been the maxim on which they acted—"Select

for your attack," said the caustic wit, "a place where there can be no reply, and an opponent who cannot retaliate, and you may slander in safety." Much may be said for the prudence of such a course of conduct; but can anything be said for its manliness or for its decency?

Upon the general question of the influence which the Prince may naturally be supposed to exercise, it is scarcely worth while to enter. To deny to him all concern and interest in the events which so nearly concern and interest her whom he is bound to solace, to advise, and to protect, would be to deny nature as well as expediency. If a responsible Minister at any time demanded an audience with the Queen, and with the Queen only, Prince Albert would not, of course, be present; but if the Minister demand no such private audience, and have no objection to the Prince's presence, but would rather court it than otherwise, Prince Albert can do no wrong in remaining; or, if any wrong be done, the Minister, not the Prince, is responsible. He is not only the Queen's husband, but a Privy Councillor, and has a double right to give his advice. Those who clamour so loudly against the presumed political interference of the Prince, should ask themselves whether it would be better to increase his private and domestic influence, by degrading and lessening his public importance? That his influence was ever exercised in a manner injurious to the interests of this country, or to the rights of the responsible Ministers of the Crown, we hold to be a falsehood, not the less wicked because it happens to be absurd. It is an insult not only to Prince Albert, but to the Queen, even to suppose it.

THE BATTLES OF KALAFAT AND CITALE: GLORIOUS DEFEAT OF THE RUSSIANS.

It will be seen by the interesting letter from our Special Correspondent at Widdin, which appears in another column, that at the date when his communication was despatched, an attack by the Russians upon the Turkish entrenchments at Kalafat was daily expected. The prognostications of the writer have been amply fulfilled. His letter contains the latest intelligence that it has been possible to transmit by the post. For all later information we are indebted to the telegraphic despatches which have been received by the British and French Governments, and published in the columns of our London and Paris contemporaries. As well as we can make out the facts of the case from the fragmentary and often contradictory accounts, the series of engagements which ended in the decisive victory of Citale—a victory still more important than that of Oltenitza—commenced on the 30th of December.

At that date, not a Russian soldier had been seen at Krajova for two days; all had been marched off to assist in the great battles looked for between that town and the Turkish camp. A Krajova correspondent says that the Russian light horse and rides were sent towards Kalafat, but all the heavy guns were sent towards Karakal. From Slatina, also, heavy ordnance, on its way from Bucharest to Krajova, was diverted to Karakal.

The population of five districts composing Little Wallachia had been all the month in a state of indescribable excitement. The Russians had thought it prudent to seize a number of young Boyards, and shut them up in a convent, it being found inconvenient to transport them to Bessarabia, as had, until then, been the practice. At Bucharest, it was thought that the Wallachian militia would be broken up, with a view to the absorption of the men in the Russian ranks, as it was found impossible to do anything with them while they retained their national organisation. Above 500 of the Wallachian soldiers had gone over to "the enemy," that is to say, at the risk of their lives had rallied to the standard of their liege lord the Sultan. A number of the Wallachian clergy had also been bold enough to leave out the name of Nicholas I. from the Liturgy of their Church, substituting that of the Sultan Abdul Medjid.

All these circumstances seem to have prepared the way for an outbreak. On or about the 30th December, several slight skirmishes took place between the Russians and Turks near Krajova, in which the latter were victorious. The news of this event was officially announced to the representatives of the Four Powers as soon as it arrived at Constantinople, whither it was despatched by the Turkish Pacha in command. But nothing of importance occurred till the 6th of January, when a division of 15,000 Turks advanced from Kalafat, with fifteen pieces of artillery to storm Citale, where 10,000 Russians had encamped, in the intention of attacking Kalafat on the 14th. The loss on this occasion appears to have been very great on both sides; that of the Turks is not yet known, but that of the Russians is estimated at upwards of 3000. The triumph of the Turks was completed by the defeat of a new reinforcement of 18,000 (or, as some say, 22,000) men, which had advanced from Karoul to defend Citale. Upwards of 250 Russians are reported to have fallen on this occasion. The news was brought to Vienna by courier, and thence transmitted, by electric telegraph, to Paris and London. There was a report current that the Pacha commanding the Turks was killed, but it has not been confirmed. The battle was renewed on the 7th, with equal success to the Turkish arms. On the morning of the 8th, however, a series of bloody conflicts took place, which ended in the total defeat of the Russians, who, in their own account, admit to have lost on this and the preceding days upwards of 1000 killed and 4000 wounded. Among the latter were Generals Aurep and Tuinot. On the 9th the battle was still raging; and the Turks, who had advanced beyond Citale, drove the Russians back to Krajova with immense loss, leaving four pieces of cannon and a great number of dead upon the field. On the 10th the Turks retired to Kalafat.

The Russians would not tolerate the circulation of any reports in the Principalities about the event, but gave out a lying statement that "they had held all their positions." The Russian hospitals were filling with the wounded, who, to avoid excitement, were brought into the town in the night. This precaution, however, only stimulated the imagination of the people.

The bayonet and the Minié rifle, were, as at Oltenitza, the weapons most in request; although the artillery did great execution on both sides. As at Oltenitza, also, the Russian officers suffered severely.

The frost had broken up, and the ice in the Danube having almost entirely disappeared, no further difficulty was experienced by the Turks at Kalafat in maintaining their communications with Widdin.

We have no further details of these important events, but have been favoured by a Military Correspondent, deriving his information from high official sources, with the plan of the battle-field, which we have engraved on the preceding page. To the right lies the Turkish town of Widdin, connected, by a bridge of boats over the Danube, with the important position of Kalafat, in Lesser Wallachia. Citale, the scene of the Russian defeat, is on the road between Kalafat and Krajova, at a distance of nine English miles from the former place. The forts numbered from 1 to 7 were constructed by the Turks to defend Kalafat, and were attacked by the Russians without success. The forts marked A, B, and C, were taken from the Russians, after a severe struggle.

THE WAR ON THE DANUBE.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

WIDDIN, Dec. 30th, 1853.

WHEN the forces were assembled, in the early part of October, for the purpose of resisting the Russians, it was determined by Sami Pacha, Governor of Widdin, to form an entrenchment at Kalafat, opposite and above the town. Ismail Pacha, Commander of the troops, was the first to cross and reconnoitre. Ismail Pacha is well known as a man who is in the front rank in every engagement. He crossed from Widdin to the island opposite the town with five men, and finding no trace of Russians, he sent for two battalions, and then a third, with the help of which he threw up a few entrenchments. The three battalions then crossed over to the mainland, and in ten days had raised defences sufficient for such a body of men to cross as would resist a considerable force of Russians. Such was the commencement of the Turkish march into the Principalities. In the meanwhile Ismail Pacha was superseded in the chief command by Achmet Pacha. The force at Kalafat consists at present of 10,000 men. For ten days after the Danube was first crossed by Ismail Pacha, the communications with Servia, and for several miles on each side of Widdin, were stopped, by order of Sami Pacha; and it was only after a fortnight had elapsed that it was generally known what the real state of things had been; even the Austrian Consul here was prohibited from despatching messengers, and this notwithstanding his remonstrances and threats. Whilst the movements were thus kept a profound secret in Widdin, the inhabitants of Kalafat were moved from their houses, to which they have not since returned; but the peasantry of the surrounding villages carried to Krajova the exaggerated intelligence that 25,000 men had landed and were advancing into the interior of the country. There were at that moment about 4000 Russians in Krajova, who thought fit to retire upon hearing this intelligence; and there was nothing at that moment that could have prevented the Turks from marching with sufficient forces to Bucharest; but prudence restrained the commanders at Widdin, who, doubtless, thought it best to expend the little portion that remained of good weather in fortifying the position at Kalafat. The whole army worked with good will at these defences, which, although they are considered to be less strong against comparative numbers than the works at Oltenitza, are stated by the Turks to be sufficiently effective to resist an attack of 50,000 Russians.

It is now daily expected that an attack will be made on Kalafat, which is supposed to be the necessary preliminary before the Russians proceed to cross the Danube; for it is scarcely probable that the Generals of the Czar will peril the existence of a corps crossing at any point between Widdin and Rutschuk, at the risk of a concentration against them from both sides of a Turkish force. It is necessary for them, before crossing, to force the position of Kalafat; and this it is expected daily that they will do. The Turkish forces are distributed as follows:—There are, besides the 10,000 men on the left bank of the Danube, whose outposts are as far advanced as Cef-zajul and Orsikutzia; 10,000 men in the town and fortress of Widdin; 5,000 men quartered in the Bulgarian villages; and a reserve of more than 10,000 men advancing from Sophia. Regiments, however, are crossing daily to Kalafat, to reinforce the positions, and this may shortly alter the distribution of the forces; and it may be expected that, in case of a Russian attack, the defences on the left bank will be manned by twenty to twenty-five thousand men. There is no doubt of the intentions of the Russians to make this attack. Twenty-five thousand men are, it is said, at this moment in Krajova, and rumour goes so far as to say that they are commanded by Marshal Paskiewitch in person. I do not know whether it will be new to you to learn that a general movement was made by the Russian army to obtain Paskiewitch as its General instead of Gortschakoff, and that the prayer of the troops has been heard by the Emperor, who dismissed the latter, and named the former in his stead. However well the Russians may fight under their veteran General, they will meet an enemy at Kalafat who has no alternative but death or victory. The Turkish soldiers know that if they flinch they are lost, and retreat is desperate. It is true a bridge, which joins the left bank and the island, is still open to them, but that is a forlorn hope. The Turks, however, are as confident of success as possible under the command of Achmet Pacha, a General of considerable skill in modern military tactics, Ismail Pacha, whose bravery is impetuous to a fault, and Skender Bey, who is covered with no less than fourteen wounds. There are, besides these, numerous young officers of note, all eager to distinguish themselves; and the whole of the administrations and superior arrangements are directed by Sami Pacha, than whom no man is more capable, by his experience and abilities to do all that can be done to ensure success.

Stores and provisions there are here in plenty. The soldiers are well fed with meat and bread daily; and, notwithstanding the existence of some cases of tertian fever, the troops are generally healthy. One scarcely expects, and one fails, to find in the Turkish regulars the military aspect of European soldiers: with their grey great coats and fez, their musket and sword, they have a look at variance with the spirit of Turkish habits, and Turkish costume. It need scarcely be said, however, that the men are all Turks, and that the Christian is no longer forced to serve, as he used to be, by surrendering himself, when young, to become a Mussulman, and a man of arms. The most picturesque of the Turkish troops are undoubtedly the Bashi Bozouks, literally "men without heads," who form a body of light cavalry of great utility; having the advantage of carrying with them their own arms, in the use of which they are considered and called by the Turks the scourge of the Cossack. It is well known, but may as well be repeated here that the Cossack of the Don is not exactly the same martial Cossack who fights against the Circassians. The latter description of men are not unlike the Bashi Bozouks, trained from their youth in the use of arms, and the management of the horse, which with them is almost as familiar, and stands in the same relation, as his steed to the Arab. But the Cossack of the Don is a man, who is drilled to be a Cossack in the same manner as the rank and file are made soldiers, namely by the knout or stick.

In the meantime, what is the state of feeling and of party amongst the people most concerned in the pending struggle. There are three nationalities at least in presence. The Servians, who people Servia, Bulgaria, and numerous states besides, and who see in the present contest an opening for the assertion of a larger right, and a chance of change; the Roumans of Wallachia and Moldavia, whose language is spoken in Transylvania, Bessarabia, and the Bukowmi; and, finally, the Turks, who levy still from the Servians tribute, and who till recently were in receipt of tribute from the Rouman population of Wallachia and Moldavia. The population of these Principalities were, it must be owned, so to speak, ready for use by Russia. Constituted, like Russia, having nobles in the shape of Boyards, who possess the rest of the population as slaves, it was obvious that the country must be an easy prey, if once the nobles were bribed or brought over by other means to Russia. There may be a national feeling amongst the Roumans, but so long as they were serfs of nobles who were unwilling or too corrupt to have any but Russian tendencies, what could they, an ignorant, though industrious mass, do against intrigue such as Russia knows how to work. Yet the Boyards might well have felt some national pride, and have been stung into exertion by the losses which have successively fallen upon their country. Transylvania, which they once possessed, became the prey of Austria; Bessarabia, which was theirs, was taken by Russia; and the Bukowmi is also lost to them.

Yet all these countries speak the Wallachian tongue. In Wallachia proper there are 2,500,000 Roumans; in Moldavia, about 1,500,000; in Bessarabia, there is a population of 800,000 of the same language; and in the Bukowina, 400,000. Transylvania alone contains 1,700,000 Wallachians, all of whom are perforce Austrian subjects. Even on the Banat there are no less than 2,000,000 of Wallachians. It is true that in Transylvania the old hereditary policy of Austria has colonised the country between Hermannstadt and Cronstadt with about 200,000 Saxons, who speak the German tongue, and are supposed now to have no national element, save the Austrian; it is also certain that the same policy has planted 300,000 Hungarian Szeklers about the Moldavian frontier: but what a feeble barrier was this against the assertion of nationality by the enormous majority of the Rouman population. A state created from this great element has no doubt been the wish and the desire of some Wallachians. One can scarcely explain the resistance of the Transylvanians against Hungary on the last revolution without supposing it. Nay, of its existence there is ample proof, on the commencement of a revolution which took place in 1848, against the Boyards and against Russia—a movement which was crushed by the entrance into the Principalities of a large Russian force. Turkey was unable to resist that time. The letter of past treaties was against her, and the Russians only retired, after disarming the population, and thus making sure of the futility of any subsequent revolution. The villagers on this occasion were even deprived of the axes necessary for cutting fuel, and one hatchet was left for the use of three families. Still, the occupation did not entirely decimate the country, and in 1853 there was still a large sum in public treasures and private purses, which served to keep up the Boyards and the noblesse. Now, however, Russia has taken everything—robbed the Principalities of fifty millions of francs, quartered her soldiers upon the people, and paid for their provisions in paper—and what paper! Is it extraordinary that, under these circumstances, the sufferers of 1848—the exiles who desired at that time to abolish serfdom and commence reform, and who since have been forced to live in foreign countries should think it probable that a national feeling may at last be raised in the Danubian Principalities; and that if the Russians have made themselves odious by wrongs in the present and despotic administration in the future, the milder rule of the Turks, who ask only for tribute, and who will grant reforms as soon as they are successful, will be welcomed, at least as the more bearable of two sorts of yoke, in the absence of all chance of present independence. Had England at once declared when Russia threatened her invasion, that the occupation of these Principalities must be a *casus belli*, these struggles might have been avoided—public attention would have been directed as effectually to the wrongs of the Christian population of Turkey, and they would have been sooner redressed, and she would have had as good a chance of laying down with success the terms, without which even now her support of Turkey must be withheld, as at present, when all is left to the arbitration of the sword.

It is more than thirty years since Russia began seriously to intrigue against the Turks in the Danubian Principalities by disseminating agents throughout the country, who, working upon the feelings of the people chiefly on the point of religion, succeeded in rousing a considerable amount of hatred of the authority and creed of the Turks. The people then had had no such experience of Russian friendship as they now possess; and the intrigues of the agents of the Czar were thus tolerably successful. The same course is at this moment pursued in Servia that was followed so long with success in Wallachia and Moldavia. Mr. de Fonton, the chief secretary of the Russian Embassy at Vienna, has been making the tour of Servia; and not only visited the chief towns of the Principality, but stopped in every village, speaking to the common people, vaunting the power of his master, and intriguing to rouse the hatred of the Servians against the Porte. It must require more talent to persuade these people of the beneficence of Russian rule than was demanded of old to flatter the Roumans. With the example of the Danubian Principalities before their eyes, the Servians are not likely to be deceived by such specious arguments as Mr. de Fonton may have to bring forward. As far as religion is concerned, the Emperor of Russia has been declared the Protector of the Greek Faith in Servia; but the clergy of the Principality are really dependent on the Patriarch of Constantinople; and the present holder of that title is well known to be by no means friendly to Russia. But, even were the clergy to hold directly of the Czar as their spiritual head, they are not, in Servia, possessed of the faculties for domination which other churches possess. For instance, in Bosnia, where, out of a population of 1,500,000, there are 300,000 Roman Catholics, who have no less than five convents and a bishop, appointed at Rome; together with an educational school at Vienna. The clergy of that denomination are the lever with which Austria intrigues; but, in Servia, the clergy has been refused the right which it claimed of educating the people. Education there is secular, the teachers being appointed by the state, and the priest only allowed to visit on Sunday, when some species of religious instruction is thus inculcated.

As regards the political state of Servia, it is needless to enter into the history of its last constitution. A *berat*, or firman was forwarded by the Porte, which granted extraordinary privileges to the country; a French constitution with a double chamber was enacted, and it was supposed that such a system would last. The folly of such a thought was soon palpable. The Lower House was abolished about three years ago; and the Government is now carried on by a Senate, which renews itself, and a Prince who is dependent on that Senate. Servia, however, governs itself. Its parishes elect their own Mayors and officers; the only taxes are direct, the Porte levying half as tribute, without requiring the military contingent, which is obtained from Egypt. Yet in Servia every man is a soldier, and bound to serve. This is the only law that can possibly weigh upon him; but it really affects him but little at the present moment. In the vast forests which surround him he leaves the pigs, which are the staple of the country and the source of his wealth, and he hunts them up periodically, and fattens them for sale. One pig pays the tribute of many families. The ground which each man cultivates and rescues from the forest is his property. It is rich beyond description—yielding cent per cent of wheat, maize, barley, and fruits, with apparently inexhaustible fertility. These men are thus free, martial, and lazy; and to fancy that they will abandon the mild rule of Turkey for the dread realities of Russian administration appears such a wild assumption, that one can scarce conceive it. Without any other thought than that of enjoying his present independence, the uneducated Servian is, therefore, likely to remain satisfied with his present lot, and anxious to substitute the government of Russia for that of Turkey. The educated Servian is more ambitious, and for other causes will hold the same opinion. He hopes that, in course of years, the independence of his country being secure, it may be permitted to extend itself to comprise Bosnia, Montenegro, and the Herzegovine—all of which speak his language, and with whose inhabitants there is community of thought and nationality. Nay, he may be desirous of rousing in the Servian Voivodina, at present under Austrian rule, in the Slavonian Banat, which extends to the Drave, the same sentiments of independence as animate himself. "The enfranchisement of Italy," said an intelligent Servian, once, at Turin, "will be conquered when Slavonian independence once asserts itself." Austria feels this, and hence her anxiety to obtain Servia. She cannot forget that for twenty years she possessed that country, from which however, she was compelled to retire. She dreads the extension of her independence, which, indeed, would be a fatal blow to her commerce

and she fears beyond all things a change by which the produce of Turkey, instead of making its way to the Adriatic at Trieste, would find a nearer port in the same sea, free from the heavy harbour duties, the transit dues, and vexatious delays, which she has invented to raise her revenue. How important, indeed, would it be for England to obtain an opening such as this—a port where her manufactures can enter free, and her produce fill the Slavonian territories, under a tariff of from 3 to 5 per cent *ad valorem*, uncurbed by the prohibitive customs of Austria. What an opening there for the corn trade, which, by entering the nearer sea, would be freed from the necessity of being carried on exclusively in distant markets like those of the Black Sea. All the efforts of Russia and of Austria have been directed to close these countries, and prohibit their having access to the Adriatic Sea. Turkey possessed one little strip of ground on the Adriatic; and, at the moment of the Bosnian war, such was Austria's anxiety lest she should open a trade communication there, that she sent Prince Leiningen to Constantinople to remonstrate in pretty much as audacious a manner as Prince Menshikoff did. Turkey, on this occasion, yielded, which was a pity; but ought not England to have seen the importance of this question? Bessarabia was only conquered by Russia that she might close the Black Sea to the trade of the Roumans, and possess herself of the mouths of the Danube. That such ideas as these exist amongst the Slavonian population there is no doubt, and the questions which they involve are, without contest, of the highest interest to England. Napoleon once said, I believe, "Cette vieille Europe m'ennuie," and doubtless the people of Great Britain—occupied by their enormous relations with the two American continents, with Australia, China, and India—do not feel as much interest in the comparatively small results that may accrue from countries nearer to them; but neglect at the present moment may involve enormous losses.

PRINCE ALBERT.

Mr. C. C. Greville, Clerk of the Privy Council, has written the following letter to the *Times*, in reply to the statements of a writer, who dates from the Carlton Club, and whose object is to show that Prince Albert is legally incapable of being a Privy Councillor. Mr. Greville's explanation will settle the point in dispute:—

Sir,—Some member of the Carlton Club has put forth a laboured argument to prove that his Royal Highness Prince Albert is legally incapable of being a Privy Councillor; and he further seems to lay some stress on the fact that the Prince was never sworn. As I happen to know something of these matters, I wish to prevent any misconception, on this point at least, from taking root in the public mind. An attentive examination of the quotations from different statutes brought forward by the Carltonian critic, will satisfy any one that they prove the case against himself: I will endeavour, nevertheless, to make it still more clear. The Acts for Naturalizing Prince Albert were copied word for word from those for naturalizing Prince Leopold, when he married the late Princess Charlotte, in virtue of which he was made a Privy Councillor on the 1st of July, 1816, with the sanction of Lord Eldon, then Lord Chancellor. By the 1st Geo. I. it is directed that no person shall be naturalised unless in the bill for that purpose a clause is inserted declaring that such person shall not thereby be enabled to be of the Privy Council, &c. In the cases of Prince Leopold and Prince Albert, respectively, bills were first brought in, enacting that Acts for their naturalisation, without the clause or particular words directed by the statute of George I. to be inserted, might be exhibited and brought into Parliament. The way being thus cleared, subsequent Acts were passed in the case of each Prince, enacting that he should "to all intents and purposes whatever be deemed, taken, and esteemed to be a natural-born subject of this kingdom, as if he had been born within the realm, any law, statute, matter, or thing to the contrary notwithstanding." The question then reduces itself to this—whether a person born out of the realm may be made a Privy Councillor? In the case of Prince Leopold, Eldon was Chancellor, and Garraw and Shepherd Attorney and Solicitor-General; in that of Prince Albert, Lord Cottenham was Chancellor, Lord Campbell Attorney, Lord Truro Solicitor-General. The opinions of the whole Carlton Club would hardly prevail against such a legal array as I have quoted; and those who might question the authority of the great Whig lawyers will hardly refuse to defer to that of Lord Eldon. With regard to Prince Albert not having been sworn, the person who made the remark is no doubt ignorant that members of the Royal family are introduced into the Council, and are not sworn. I have some doubt whether such has been the usage with regard to every member of the Royal family, but it certainly has been as to the sons of the Sovereign, and to her Consort, when a Queen has been on the throne. The precedents of Prince Leopold (though the Princess Charlotte was only presumptive heiress), and of Prince George of Denmark, were followed in the case of Prince Albert, both of whom were introduced, and took no oaths. The late Duke of Sussex, whom I consulted (in reference to Prince Albert's being made a Privy Councillor), informed me that the usage was to consider the King's sons as being Privy Councillors from their birth, to be introduced into the Council when the King thought fit, and that they were never sworn; but that more remote relations were sworn like other Privy Councillors, and that he was himself introduced in his father's lifetime, and took no oath; but subsequently, on the accession of his brothers, George IV. and William IV. (when the whole Privy Council was re-appointed) he had taken the usual oaths. I myself administered the oaths to him and the Duke of Cumberland on the accession of Queen Victoria; but I am not satisfied that I was right, according to usage, in so doing. I am, &c., yours obediently, C. C. GREVILLE.

THE SLANDERS AGAINST PRINCE ALBERT.

An article having appeared in the *Daily News*, last week, in which it was stated that Mr. Roebuck intended to question Ministers as to the alleged interference of Prince Albert with foreign affairs, the member for Sheffield has sent the following contradiction of the statement to the editor of that journal:—

Sir,—A friend having informed me yesterday that I was the subject of a leading article in your paper, I was induced to read the article, as I was desirous of knowing how one who led so quiet and retired a life could become the subject of a political writer's lucubrations. I found it stated in the article in question that it was currently reported that I intended, on the opening of Parliament, to question Ministers on the subject of the alleged interference of Prince Albert with the business of Government. Now, on this statement I beg to remark, that the person who first set this rumour afloat took an unwarrantable liberty with my name—as I never, by writing or by word of mouth, gave anybody reason to believe that I had such an intention. I neither intend to make such inquiry, nor have I ever intended doing so. I may sink in your estimation by this declaration; but surely a man ought to possess some evidence before he brings an accusation—and such an inquiry, so made, is equivalent to an accusation—and certainly he who puts the question ought to believe that there exist some grounds for the imputation which it conveys. I, however, have no evidence respecting the matter; and was not aware, until I read the article in the *Daily News*, that the charge was seriously made. The *Times* is the only paper I see, and in the *Times* no mention has been made of the imputation. Besides, a vague unsupported statement in a newspaper is hardly a sufficient ground for so grave a proceeding as the one you say it is reported that I contemplate. Anything beyond such a strong rumour I have not seen; and on such light evidence I should never bring so serious an accusation.

Believe me, sir, your very obedient servant,

Milton, Jan. 12.

J. A. ROEBUCK.

INTERNATIONAL COPYRIGHT.—Mr. Carey, the American political economist, has just written a pamphlet upon this question replete with the usual national prejudices against it, but interesting from the facts it records as to the circulation in the United States of recent popular American productions. We extract the following:—Miss Warner's *Queechy and Wide World*, 25,000 copies of each; Uncle Tom's Cabin, 295,000; Fern Leaves, 45,000; Alderbrook, 10,000; Solomon Northup's *Ten Years a Slave*, 20,000; Novels of Mrs. Hentz, in three years, 90,000; Kendall's *Expedition to Santa Fé*, 40,000; Stephens' *Incidents of Travel in Egypt*, &c., 40,000; Stephens' *Yucatan*, 30,000; Chancellor Kent's *Commentaries*, 4 vols., 21,000.—*The Publishers' Circular*.

THE FRENCH MAILS.—A deputation, consisting of the chairman (Mr. Norbury) and two other members of the Stock Exchange Committee, waited on Colonel Mabery, at the Post-office, on Wednesday morning, to represent the great inconvenience arising from the delay in the delivery of the letters from France, which, arriving before nine o'clock at the Post-office, are frequently not delivered in the City before three o'clock. Colonel Mabery admitted at once the grievance of which they complained; explained to them that this detention at the Post-office had arisen from the non-arrival of the mid-day country letters; but informed them that, the Treasury having lately added an increase to their numerical force, he fully expected the delay would now be remedied.

Major Sir Warwick Hele Tonkin has just been presented with a gold medal, from the Imperial Société de Sauvetege, of the Seine et Loire, at Paris.

PROVINCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

THE ANNUAL POLITICAL GATHERING AT MANCHESTER.—The usual political meeting of the Free-trade and Liberal representatives of the two divisions of Lancashire and the boroughs of that county, prior to the meeting of Parliament, will take place this year on the evening of Tuesday next. The meeting would have taken place in the Free-trade Hall, but for the dilapidated state of that building, which is about to be rebuilt. The necessity of holding the meeting at the Albion Hotel will confine the invitations to the leaders of the party, and it will partake of the character of the "Social Soirée" held at the same place in January, 1851, when about 240 or 300 of the principal Liberals of the county, including most of the election committees for the divisions and boroughs of Lancashire, were present. The topic principally dwelt on on that occasion was the letter of Lord J. Russell to the Bishop of Durham, and the excitement occasioned by the recent Papal aggression. A gathering of a similar character took place last January, at the Town hall, when the principal subject for consideration was the necessity of a further reform in Parliament. The gathering of 1852 was at a Free-trade banquet, in November. Reform will probably be the principal object of the present demonstration; and amongst the members who have already promised to be present are—Mr. Cobden, M.P.; Mr. T. M. Gibson, M.P.; Mr. J. Bright, M.P.; Mr. J. Heywood, M.P.; Mr. J. Cheetham, M.P.; Mr. G. Hadfield, M.P.; Mr. Ker-shaw, M.P.; and Mr. Crook, M.P.; Mr. Barnes, M.P.; Mr. Montague Fielding, M.P.; and Mr. Goodman, M.P., have also promised to be present if possible.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the General Committee for promoting the proper reception of the British Association in Liverpool, was held in the Town-hall on Friday week, at which it was arranged that a public meeting should be called by the Mayor, towards the latter end of March or beginning of April, to which Professor Phillips should be invited; that time being chosen as most convenient to him. The subscription list was then augmented by the names of many gentlemen present, the amounts varying from £5 to £25. The amount already subscribed is about £200. The amount required is about £1500.

SYSTEM OF REGISTRATION FOR SCOTLAND.—That Scotland should have so long remained without a compulsory register of births, marriages, and deaths, is disgraceful to herself and the Legislature. We trust, however, that another session of Parliament will not close without this being awarded; and that the country which has taken so high a position in science, art, and literature, will be no longer found to want a correct record of the movement of its population—a record which, save in Scotland, is to be found in every civilised country in Europe.—*Dr Strang's Glasgow Mortality Tables for 1853.*

THE PRESTON STRIKE.—At the usual weekly meeting of the delegates in connection with the Power-Loom Weavers' Association, held at Preston, on Saturday, it was stated that the income for the last week was £2231. The chief contributions were from Blackburn, £620; Stockport, £260; Preston, £196; Glossop, £161; Ashton, £160; Hyde, £150; Over Darwen, £120; Staleybridge, £74; Oldham, £56; Bolton, £50 14s. It is a very remarkable fact that neither Manchester nor Salford, though containing an aggregate population of 400,000 inhabitants, chiefly working people, have contributed a farthing to the Strike Fund. The Preston operatives still declare their determination not to begin work till they obtain the advance of wages. The combination of the Lancashire mill-owners, for the purpose of assisting the Preston employers, is extending. A very large fund has been subscribed to aid them while the struggle lasts.

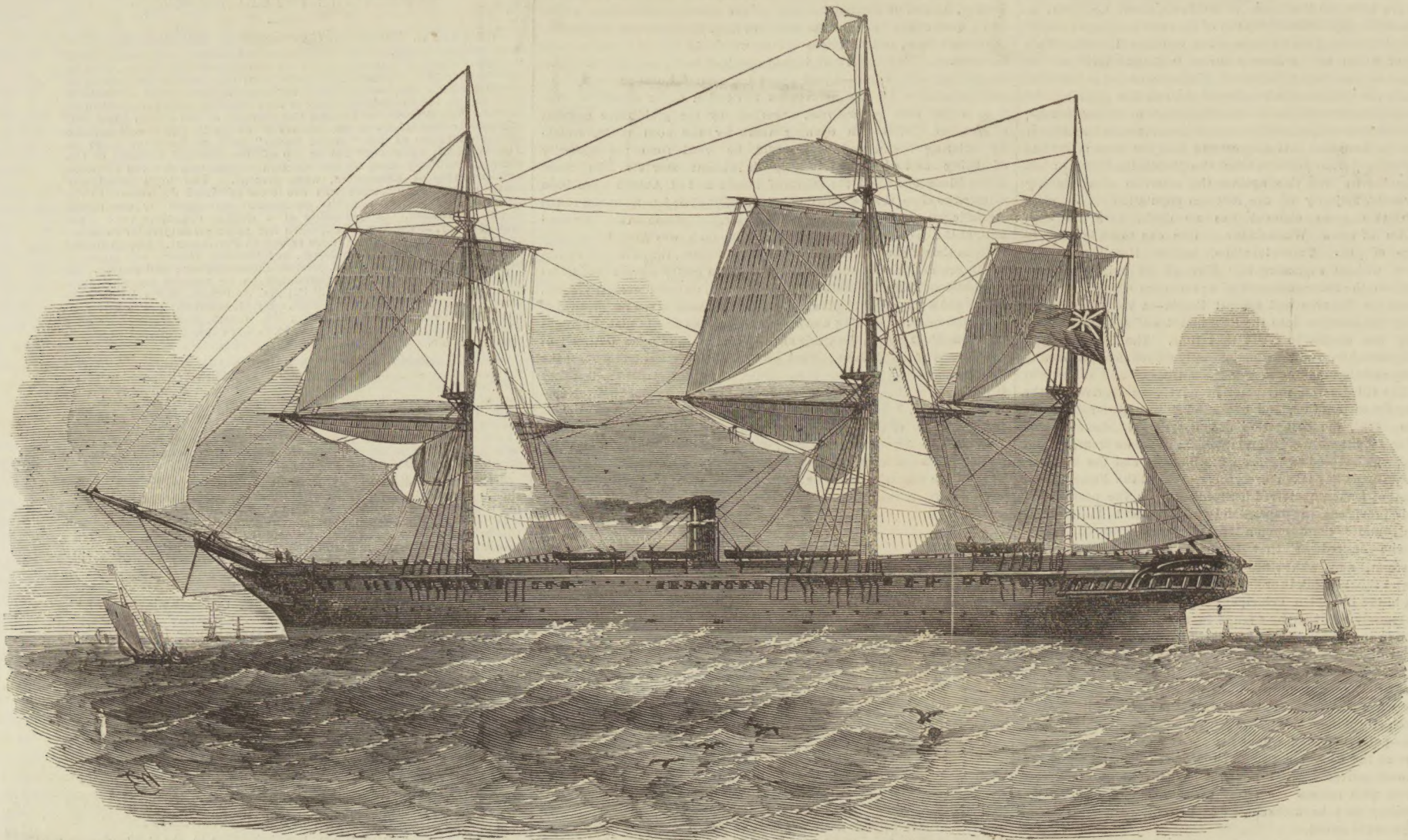
THE "HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP.

THIS magnificent screw steam-ship, belonging to the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company, commanded by Captain A. Kellock, left the Thames for Southampton on Thursday week, and is calculated to have made the passage from Greenwich to St. Helen's Roads in thirteen hours; and, since her appearance in the Southampton Docks, has been the object of great interest and attention to numerous visitors of all classes of society who have been permitted to go on board to make an inspection of the wondrous triumphs of enterprise and skill displayed in this gigantic ocean steamer.

The *Himalaya* is the largest ocean steam-ship in the world. She is, in fact, the *Duke of Wellington*, not alone of the Peninsular and Oriental Company's fleet, but takes dual rank among all the merchant steam-ships at present in existence. The *Himalaya* is of 3550 tons register, equal to over 4000 tons burden, and is of the extraordinary length of 372 feet 9 inches. The length of keel is 311 feet; breadth for tonnage, 46 feet 2 inches; depth of hold, 24 feet 9 inches. These proportions, when contrasted with the dimensions of other ships, give a great advantage, particularly in length, to the *Himalaya*; for example, the *Duke of Wellington*, of 131 guns, although of greater beam and depth, is inferior in length by ninety-two feet to the *Himalaya*. The screw-steamer *Great Britain* is 332 feet long, or forty feet shorter than the *Himalaya*; while the American clipper-ship *Great Republic*, recently destroyed by fire in New York, was only 325 feet long, or of forty-seven feet less length than the *Himalaya*. Although the *Himalaya* exceeds in so large a degree the length of the *Duke of Wellington*, yet she is inferior in tonnage to that ship, the *Duke* being 3759 4-94 tons, or about 209 tons larger than the *Himalaya*. The superior burden of the *Duke of Wellington* is produced by her enormous breadth of beam, which is sixty feet; and her depth, which is fifty-seven feet forward and sixty five feet aft, both these qualities being indispensable in ships of war to enable them to carry their heavy armament of artillery with the requisite supply of ammunition, stores, &c. The engines, of 700-horse power, are on the trunk principle, similar to those supplied by that firm to the *Agamemnon* and other vessels. Their splendid performance cannot be exaggerated; they work like the mechanism of a chronometer, and propel the ship through the water with incredible smoothness and ease of motion. The cylinders of the engines are of 34 inches diameter, with a 3½-foot stroke, and the revolutions per minute are from 50 to 60. The screw is a two-bladed one, on the old principle, of 18 feet diameter, with a 28-foot pitch, and weighs nearly seven tons. The vessel is full ship-rigged; and the masts, spars, and sails, which have been supplied are those suitable for a clipper-sailing ship of 1600 or 1800 tons. Captain Kellock assures us, from the experience he has already had of the qualities of the vessel, that in a heavy breeze there would be no difficulty in getting eighteen knots or twenty miles an hour out of the ship by using both steam and canvas. Passengers by this magnificent steamer will revel in every luxury and comfort that can be comprehended in a sea voyage. The saloon, nearly 100 feet in length, will dine 170 persons; the bed-cabins are the largest and most roomy ever yet appropriated to marine travellers. There is in the various suites of apartments accommodation for 200 first and second-cabin passengers, besides the usual mail-rooms, baggage-rooms, store-rooms, water-tanks, &c. The ship will carry 1000 tons of measurement goods on freight, and in her bunkers can stow 1900 tons of coals. The spar-deck is flush from stem to stern, and it is when setting foot upon this part of the vessel that her immense size produces an extraordinary effect upon the spectator. An uninterrupted promenade of 375 feet, or 125 yards is here provided. To walk round the spar-deck precisely one-seventh of a mile has to be traversed.

The possession of such a stupendous steam-ship as the *Himalaya* must be a matter not merely of local, but national interest. If, unhappily, the threatened war should break out, there is no telling the uses to which, upon emergencies, this vessel, and other steamers of lesser size belonging to the great steam companies, might be applied. Three thousand men could be embarked at Southampton, and conveyed by the *Himalaya* in eleven days to Constantinople or the Black Sea; while steamers such as the *Colombo*, *Plata*, *Atrato*, *Jason*, *Argo*, *Ceresus*, and many others, might be despatched with proportionate numbers. By employing temporarily the great steamers usually congregated at Southampton, a small army might, in fact, be rapidly thrown upon any particular point of the European or Asiatic coast, where the exigencies or unexpected hazards of war should render such succours necessary. For rapidly transporting immense supplies of provisions, ammunition, artillery, and of men to the fleets in the Black Sea, in the Mediterranean, or in the Baltic, it is difficult to say what enormous services might not, on emergency, be rendered by a few steamers such as these, should the Admiralty at any time find it desirable to employ them. Armed with long Faixhan guns, manned with a sufficient force of seamen trained to gunnery, such a ship as the *Himalaya* would laugh to scorn the efforts of any ordinary ships of war to capture her. The *Duke of Wellington*, according to accounts recently received from Lisbon, is as easily handled at sea as the *Cowes* yacht; and, if we rightly interpret the intelligence which has lately reached us, the Admiralty are determined to try, on a more extended scale, the principle of screw line-of-battle ships. Instead of ships of 4000 tons, 800-horse power, and carrying 131 guns, there is nothing to prevent the construction of ships 500 feet long, of 10,000 tons burden, and capable of mounting 200 or 250 pieces of ordnance of the largest size.

The momentum of the *Himalaya*, arising from her enormous bulk and speed combined, can scarcely be estimated. On Friday week, when she was going into dock, and her speed was almost spent, and with only the slightest amount of way on her, she snapped in two a warp as big as



"THE HIMALAYA" STEAM-SHIP.

a man's arm, which held her, as if it had been a piece of packthread. Such a ship would cut down a man-of-war to the water's edge. According to the mail contract, she would be bound, in case of war, to carry guns for her defence. But this would be quite unnecessary. She would run away from, or run over any enemy's ship. The largest and most heavily-mounted privateer would be too glad to get out of her way. Her successful performance of the trial trip of 3000 miles to Alexandria will mark an epoch in the history of steam navigation, which will have an important influence on the interest of commerce and the world, for it will show the practicability of again reducing the space between the most distant parts of the earth, and of abolishing almost all the discomforts of a lengthened sea voyage. The *Himalaya* was constructed by Mr. T. Waterman, jun., at the building-yard of Messrs. C. Mare and Co., of Blackwall; and is fitted with engines of 700-horse power, by the Messrs. Penn and Co. A View of the launch of this vessel, with further particulars, appeared in our Journal of May 28, 1853.

IRON COALING STATION AT THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE great want of a good Coaling Station at Table Bay, has long been felt; and the importance of this provision is very great, not only to the colony itself, but to the owners of steam-vessels touching at Cape Town; while it is a matter in which a great portion of the mercantile community of England are greatly interested. Accordingly, Messrs. Walton and Bushell, merchants, of the Cape, have had a large iron building erected at the end of the Central Jetty, intended to hold 2500 tons of coals. The Government, seeing the great benefit likely to arise from such a dépôt, have given Messrs. Walton and Bushell every assistance in the erection of the building, by (we believe) a grant of the land on which it stands. Iron tramways have been laid down direct from the interior of the building to the end of the jetty, so that steam-ships can now be coaled in Table Bay, with almost

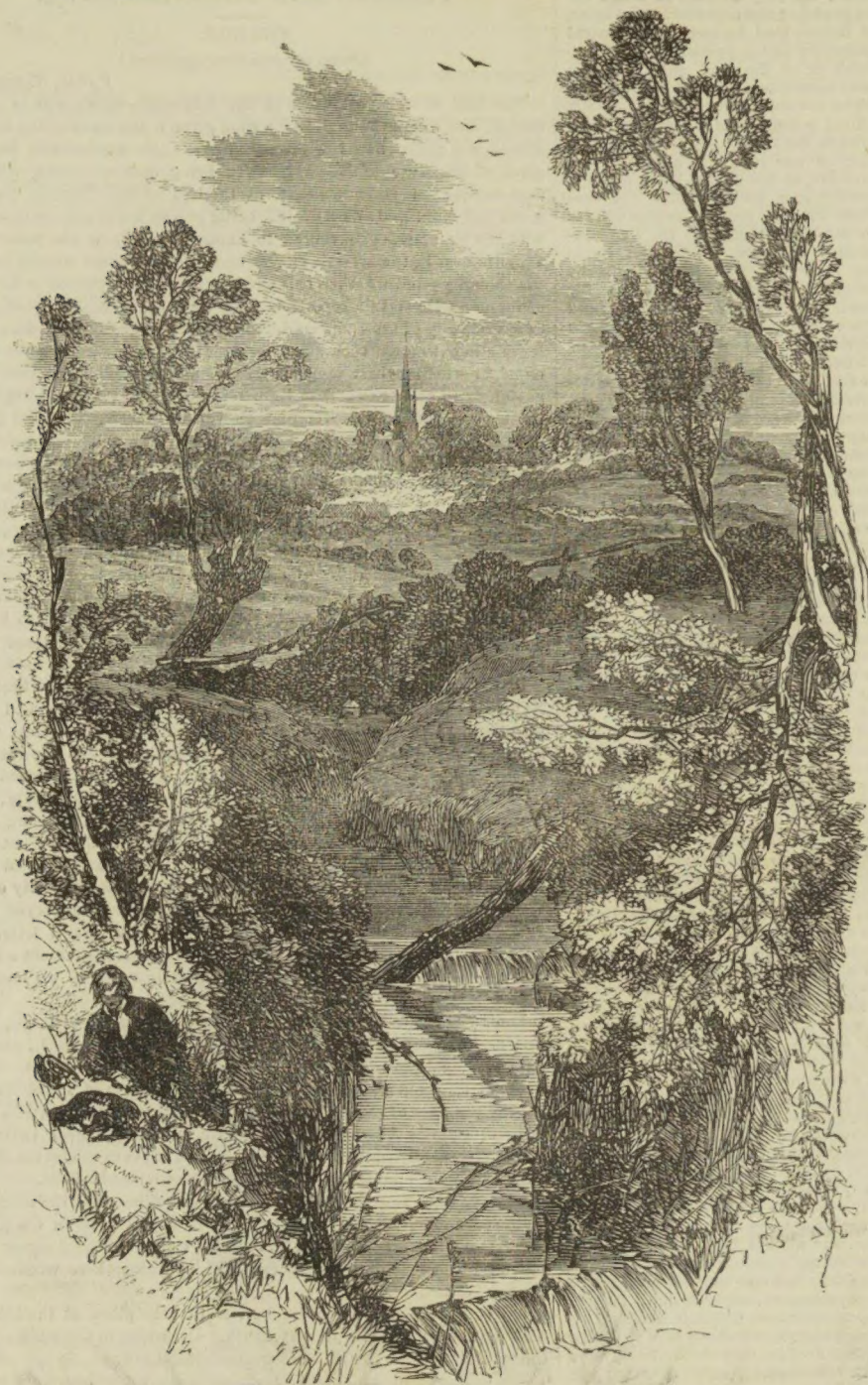
as great facility as in London. The coal is packed in sacks, ready at a moment's notice to be put on board. As an instance of the rapidity with which steam-vessels are coaled, Messrs. Walton and Bushell lately shipped 750 tons on board the Australian Royal Mail Steam Navigation Company's steamer *Sydney* in somewhat less than two days. This is the quickest coaling ever known at the Cape; and would, a short time since, have occupied five or six days at least.

The Coaling Station has been constructed by Mr. Walker, of Millwall. It is of corrugated iron plates, fastened by iron tie-rods of great strength, with strong girders outside to support the building. The dimensions are 150 long by 50 feet broad; and it is considered one of the completest iron buildings yet sent to the colonies. The cost, including the erection was about £1200.

The Illustration shows the new Station, with Table Bay, from the Central Jetty; the Australian Royal Mail steam-vessel *Sydney* lying at anchor.



IRON COALING STATION FOR STEAMERS, AT CAPE TOWN.



THE FLEET.—SKETCHED NEAR HAMPSTEAD.

THE FLEET SEWER.

The passenger who rolls smoothly over the well-paved roadway, or hurriedly elbows his way through the dense mass of human beings which throng the foot-pavements of this huge metropolis, rarely thinks of the vast reticulation of subterranean channels by which are removed the liquid refuse of the millions inhabiting the banks of the Thames. Yet, when it is considered that, during dry weather, the aggregate liquid refuse

open ditches or sewers. The Fleet' north of Fleet bridge, was covered in when Fleet-market was built; the portion north of Holborn was covered in about eighteen years ago, it being the last open sewer within the City boundary: above the City, the Fleet is, however, in portions still open.

The sizes of this vast arterial drain are as follows:—Near Blackfriars-bridge, it is about 16 feet high and 12 feet wide; in Farringdon-street, the sewer is divided into two branches, each being about 11 feet

of the metropolitan population, contributed by hundreds of thousands of inlets and minute drains, amounting to about 14,000,000 cubic feet, or 87,000,000 gallons daily, is discharged by sewers, and, for the most part, without inconvenience of any kind, their importance becomes at once apparent.

But this is their dry weather discharge. In times of rain, the utility of the sewers, although, perhaps, not greater, is more striking. The area of the metropolis, according to the boundary of the Registrar-General, is about 112 square miles—the more closely-populated portion may, perhaps, be taken at about 60 square miles; and, if we assume a rain of about half an inch in depth equally over the whole of the latter area in twenty-four hours (a rate of fall not unusual), then, during a considerable portion of the time, in addition to the sewage from the houses, a quantity of water of about 18,000,000 gallons per hour, is discharged by the London sewers. Storms even of half an inch of rain during the hour are of yearly occurrence; and even of two inches in an hour, are within the memory of most men; yet the water of the severest storms is, for the most part, received and carried off by the sewers without injury or inconvenience, and, with exceptional cases, almost immediately; and, at the furthest, within half an hour afterwards, but slight traces of the storms are left. When the great length, the inevitable intricacy of this vast system of subterranean channels is considered, the Sewers of London, which have been plentifully abused of late years, must, with all their faults, take their place among the wonders of this leviathan city; and fully justify the assertion made by the most eminent engineers, that London is the best-drained city in the world.

One of the oldest Sewers, if not actually the oldest, in the metropolis, is the Fleet; once an open river, which, as Stow tells us, "had been of such breadth and depth, that ten or twelve ships' navies at once, with merchandise, were wont to come to the aforesaid bridge of Fleet"—is still a river, although hidden from sight; the waters of the Highgate and Hampstead hills still run through it; the old Bourne (now also a sewer) still delivers its waters into it; but, in addition to this, from running through a dense population, it probably receives and discharges more sewage water than any other sewer in the metropolis.

The Corporation of London early saw the propriety of covering over the open water-courses, which, in the process of time, had become

6 inches high and 6 feet wide, which join at Holborn-bridge, and connect with a sewer about 12 feet high and 11 feet 6 inches wide.

That portion of the Fleet Sewer which lies south of Fleet-street is now under repair. Our Sketch will give some idea of the extent of the work, and the extreme mechanical difficulties that have to be contended with in carrying it on in such a situation; the only opening to it, as was reported by the engineer to the City Commissioners of Sewers, being but three feet square, and the sewer itself always running vast quantities of water, subject to tidal influence; and, in times of rain, its current being swollen to a vast torrent, capable of carrying almost everything before it; the rain-water of between seven and eight square miles being carried off by this sewer.

The works are being executed under the direction of Mr. W. Haywood, the Engineer to the Commission; Messrs. Thomas Crook and Son, being the contractors for the work.

We subjoin a few details of the Fleet, as a river:—The small, rapid stream Fleet, which has given name to the prison and street, and the portion of the City Wall ditch from Holborn to the Thames, has its origin in a nursery-ground on the eastern ridge of Hampstead-hill. Here it becomes a sewer; after which it issues from the side of a bank below Well-walk; and then flows down a small valley of gardens and orchards to near the reservoir of the Hampstead water-heads, to feed which the springs of the Fleet were collected in 1589, and were afterwards leased out by the City of London. From Hampstead the Fleet may be traced to the upper part of Kentish-town: after which it is diverted from its original course for the sewage of Camden-town; but its ancient channel may be traced at the back of the Castle Tavern, Kentish-town, and next in the King's-road, near Pancras Workhouse; and about 1825 the Fleet was conspicuous all along the Bagnigge-wells-road, but is now covered over. Its further course is under the walls of the House of Correction, in Clerkenwell-fields, thence to the workhouse in Coppice-row, under Eyre-street (formerly Hockley-in-the-Hole), having here been originally joined by "the River of the Wells," formed by Clerken, Skinners', and other wells; and thus to the bottom of Holborn. Here it received the waters of the Old Bourne, which rose near Middle-row, and the channel of which forms the sewer of Holborn-hill to this day. Thence the united stream flowed beneath what is now called Farringdon-street into the Thames.

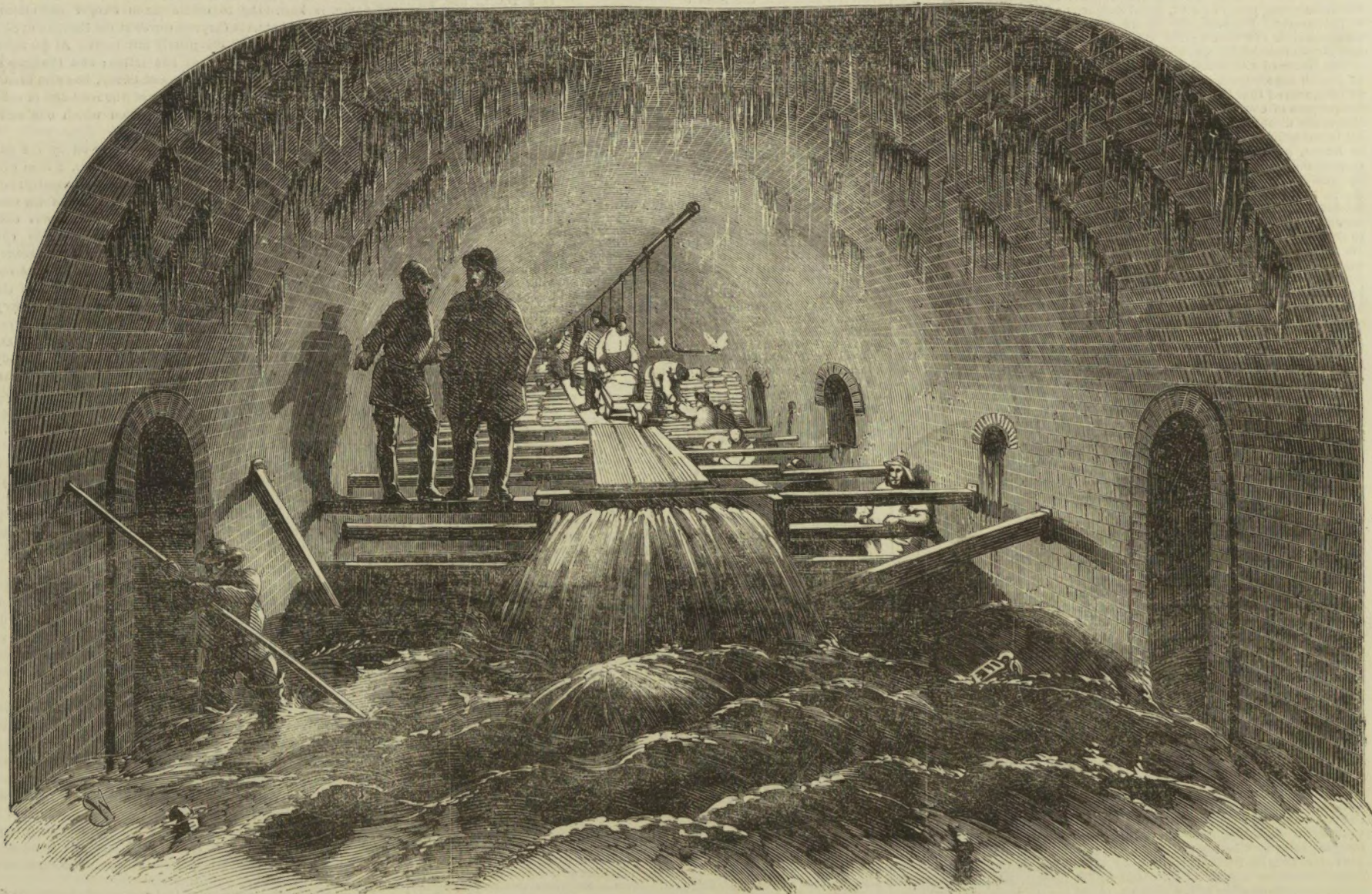
SIR ROBERT HARRY INGLIS, BART.

THE announcement that Sir Robert Inglis retires from the representation of the University of Oxford, implies that he has terminated his public



SIR ROBERT HARRY INGLIS, BART., LATE M.P. FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD.—FROM A DAGUERRÉOTYPE BY BEARD.

life. Declining health is alleged as the cause of this resolve of the honourable Baronet; at which no one will be surprised who has been



REPAIR OF THE FLEET SEWER.

habitué to observe of late years this old servant of the Church of England, when fulfilling his public duties. If his friends and admirers could see no diminution of the zeal and fortitude with which he was accustomed to discharge his duties as champion of the "orthodox" party in Oxford University, they could not have been blind to the fact that time had, at least, begun to do his work. The flower he wore on his breast might be as fresh and as bright as ever, but the tint on his cheek was less ruddy, and his portly frame had shrunk from its wonted amplitude. We subjoin a few particulars of the leading incidents of his life.

Sir Robert was born on the 12th January, 1786, and is son of Sir Hugh Inglis, Bart., thirteenth and youngest child, and eventually sole representative of the male line of Robert Inglis of Edinburgh, by Mary, only daughter and heiress of James Russell, Esq. Her mother, Anne, was daughter and heiress of Robert Wightman, Esq., of Maudslie. Robert Inglis, Esq., grandfather of Sir Hugh, was member for Edinburgh in the last Parliament for Scotland. Sir Hugh sailed for India in 1762. His father died young, but his mother lived long enough to see her son on his return home in 1775, when he commenced a career of great usefulness in England. For many years he was a Director of the East India Company; thrice filled the office of Chairman, and thrice that of Deputy-Chairman. He was created a baronet in June, 1801.

Sir Robert Inglis married at the early age of one-and-twenty; the lady of his choice being Mary, eldest daughter of Joseph Seymour Briscoe, Esq., of Pendhill, Surrey. He had already entered himself as student of Lincoln's Inn; and on the 8th June, 1808, he was called to the bar. He succeeded to the Baronetcy on the death of his father, on the 21st August, 1820. He first entered Parliament as M.P. for Dundalk in 1824. From 1826 to 1828 he sat for Ripon. On Sir R. Peel's change of opinion as to Catholic Emancipation, Sir R. Inglis was chosen by the clergy and the opponents of Roman Catholic Emancipation to contest the representation of Oxford University with their late member. Sir Robert Peel was defeated by a large majority. Upon entering the House of Commons Sir Robert Inglis became a by no means inactive member, although his principal speeches about this period were in opposition to the recently proposed Roman Catholic Relief Bill. At this early period of his life, his opinions on the subject of Papal encroachment were as decided as at the most recent period; and many of his speeches evinced that thoroughgoing devotion to Protestantism and the Established Church of this country, of which he has always given such signal examples. As early as 1825 Sir Robert had argued with great energy and force against the concession of those claims which were yearly becoming more pressing. On the 10th May in that year, he made a speech in Parliament, in which he brought forward a numerous array of historical facts to show that the Church of Rome had, from time immemorial, been the friend to tyranny, the foe to learning, and the most vicious enemy to civilisation and advancement; and that, even when placed in extremity, its character and nature were still grasping, despotic, exclusive, and unchangeable, refusing at all times to yield one jot of its intolerant assumptions. This he did in what may be termed a spirit of religious conservatism.

When the Roman Catholic question was again prominently brought under the consideration of Parliament by the motion of Sir Francis Burdett, in 1828, for a committee of the whole House to consider the laws affecting the Roman Catholics, Sir Robert reiterated his objections to the concession of their demands. In this speech he entered into the history of the concessions to the Catholics in Ireland, and the wars between them and the Protestants. The Treaty of Limerick, he argued, had not been violated, the great argument urged by his opponents; at the same time quoting from Roscoe the sentiment that "no advantage can justify the sacrifice of a principle, nor was a crime ever necessary in the conduct of human affairs." He then proceeded to admit that if that treaty had been broken he would have yielded to the claims of the Roman Catholics, adding "that he never would allow an argument from expediency to overturn a claim of right." The more recent developments of ultra Montanism, which the Legislature sought to check by the Ecclesiastical Titles Bill, was shadowed forth by Sir Robert in the course of this address.

Although it is chiefly upon religious topics that the accredited champion of the Church of England expends his eloquence, secular subjects, the more especially those which bear upon the Constitution and the relations of Church and State, have, from time to time, occupied his attention, and elicited from him speeches in the House of Commons. So, when the Reform Bill was introduced, Sir Robert opposed it, as calculated, in his opinion, to shake the foundation of the political and religious structure, whose entirety he regarded as essential to the maintenance of the Protestant institutions of the country. In a debate on the Reform Bill, he denied that the Constitution of England was intended to be of that elastic form which the friends of political progress claimed to be its characteristic. He declined receiving the theories of De Lolme and Montesquieu as his guides and landmarks. On the contrary, he held that the King's writ, the King's charter, the statutes of the realm, and the common law, or custom of centuries, formed in themselves the Constitution of England, and afforded the best, if not the only means of revealing its true character. He denied the assertion of Hallam that population should give a right to representation, as it was contrary to all the terms upon which representation had been at all times obtained. Sir Robert also used the oft-employed argument that by means of close boroughs young men of talent, but of insufficient fortunes, were admitted to Parliament. He cited the return of Mr. Pitt (afterwards Earl of Chatham), for Old Sarum; Mr. William Pitt, for Appleby; Mr. Fox; and Mr. Burke and Mr. Canning, who were returned for Wendover.

The House of Commons has never held a more determined opponent of Jewish Emancipation than Sir Robert Inglis. When Mr. R. Grant, in 1834, moved that the House should resolve itself into committee for the purpose of considering a resolution which he meant to propose relative to the disabilities under which the Jews laboured, and to justify his introduction of a bill on the subject, Sir Robert opposed the motion in *limine*, gallantly but unsuccessfully charging the ranks of the Opposition with a small band of nine supporters against fifty-three. By the way, we find the hon. Baronet, on the same day (24th April, 1834) opposing Mr. Murray's bill for repealing the Foreign Enlistment Act. Upon this occasion Sir Robert anticipated some of the arguments of the Peace party. He denied that any man was at liberty to slay his fellow-man, except in self-defence, or by lawful authority. He objected to anything like a free-trade in war; or to allow men, without a license, to slay their fellow-creatures. He asked whether it was just that any man should be at liberty to carry to market his best energies for killing his fellow-men? In one word, he objected to the bill, because it lessened the checks which prevented men carrying their swords to market in order to slay their fellow-creatures. The hon. Baronet, perhaps, mixed up political economy and game certificates a little incongruously, in stating his objections to the warlike occupation; but even in this direction he has been outdone by the more recent champions of peace.

Ever watchful of the interests of the Church of England, he strenuously opposed that portion of the report of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners for England and Wales, presented March 10, 1836, which related to the reduction of the Episcopal revenues; resting his objection on the ground that it was not fair to allow such a privilege to a tribunal in which laymen as well as prelates possessed a judicial power.

Upon the question of privilege raised by the case of Stockdale v. Hansard, Sir Robert sided with the decision of the Court of Queen's Bench, and against Sir Robert Peel, and many others of the Conservative party.

In 1842, when the Income-tax was under discussion, as part of the financial propositions of Sir R. Peel, Sir R. Inglis put in a claim for the exemption of small incomes. He suggested, also, that not only incomes under £150 a year should be exempt, but that that amount should be deducted from all incomes of a higher value, and the tax fall only on the overplus; so that persons whose income was £200 a year should pay only on £50. The £600 a year tax paid by the man of £2000 a year, he contended, or the £600 a year tax paid by the man of £20,000 a year, would be comparatively lightly felt; but that £6 a year paid by the individual of £60 a year would abridge him of many comforts, and, he might almost say, of many necessities. At any rate, his sacrifice was immeasurably greater than that of the rich proprietor nominally paying ten times the amount. Therefore, he argued, if it were fit to make any reserve whatever of incomes of £150 a year, it would be proper to permit a similar advantage to incomes above £150 year.

With that jealousy of parliamentary precedent and usage which distinguished the late Sir Robert Peel, Sir R. Inglis, on the occasion of Mr. Roebuck instituting an inquiry into election practices, much resembling the disclosures which have recently thrown so much scandal upon the representative system, took the hon. and learned member severely to task for departing from the ordinary rule of warfare, and singling out particular members of the House for attack. When, on the 8th April, 1843, Mr. Charles Butler submitted to the House of Commons a plan for an extensive system of colonisation, Sir Robert, not objecting to schemes of colonisation in the abstract, urged the importance of sending out complete frameworks of society in which the Church establishment

should be predominant. This is almost the only instance in which Sir Robert Inglis has put forth views of a grand or comprehensive character.

During the Administration of Sir Robert Peel he received a general support from Sir Robert Inglis, occasionally varied by determined opposition, when the interests of the Church or of the land were seriously menaced. The Maynooth scheme was naturally regarded by him with great disfavour; as, indeed, were all the concessions made by Sir Robert Peel to the Roman Catholics. The fiscal policy of the Minister was also occasionally opposed, when it appeared to Sir Robert Inglis that it bore too hard on the landed interest. Still, he was regarded, until near the close of Sir Robert's Peel's Administration, as one of that large body of Conservative gentlemen who continued to him while in office the confidence which had helped to place him there. But the events of 1846 totally changed his relations with his ancient chief. In the proposal to abolish the protective duties on corn, Sir Robert Inglis saw only a blow aimed at the land for the benefit of the manufacturing classes; and, although he never bore towards Sir Robert Peel the sentiment of political animosity to which Lord George Bentinck and Mr. Disraeli gave expression, he offered to the Corn-bill a decided opposition by voice and vote, and he acquiesced in the revenge soon visited by the Tories on its author. Since this period, Sir Robert Inglis has, with tolerable steadiness, adhered to the fortunes of what is termed the Protectionist party; although there can have been little sympathy between him and its chief in the House of Commons. His later antagonism to Sir Robert Peel was political only, and when that statesman met with his untimely end, Sir Robert Inglis was one of the foremost of those who gave public expression to their sorrow: he took occasion to pay a graceful and dignified tribute to the memory of the dead. From the strong opinions entertained by Sir Robert Inglis on the subject of the position of the Roman Catholics, it was natural that he should feel peculiarly indignant at the proceedings of Cardinal Wiseman, and that he should give a hearty support to the measure of repression proposed by the Government of the day, though doubting whether it was stringent enough. When Lord Derby came into power, Sir Robert Inglis gave him his support; and, up to the close of the last session, he was usually reckoned among the steady opponents of the present Government.

In the foregoing memoir, we have touched on a few only of the leading points in the public life of Sir R. Inglis. As the representative during a quarter of a century of the University of Oxford, and as the accredited organ of the most numerous and wealthy party in the Church of England, he necessarily took part in almost all important discussions. He was, in fact, one of those representatives of opinion who are either consulted by the Minister of the day before he propounds a policy, or whose expressed views indicate the sentiments of the class or body whose recognised organ they are.

The character of Sir Robert Inglis's mind eminently fitted him for the position he held, however much his duties therein may have contributed to form and strengthen that character. He had none of the large and lofty aims which Mr. Disraeli ascribes to Toryism, as enshrined in the pages of Bolingbroke; nor had he the more enlightened, fearless, and liberal character of the Conservatives of the school of Sir Robert Peel. His purposes were honest, but his mind was contracted. A man of large mind, indeed, would not have consented to hold a position which demanded of him a perpetual policy of mere obstruction, a dogged insistence on certain narrow doctrines, privileges, and opinions. But such as the duty was, Sir Robert Inglis performed it well, and with temper and dignity. If, as his opponent would allege, he was the anointed champion of bigotry, assuredly that cause was never yet served in a more amiable and winning manner. In fact, this rather increased than diminished the presumed evil of his obstructive policy, because his mildness and candour seemed to contradict the imputation of a stolid and obstinate enmity to all improvement and advancement, and even to all religious freedom out of a certain narrow pale. His contracted views apart, Sir R. Inglis has always given evidences of a cultivated and scholarly mind. Without being eloquent in the conventional sense of the term, he always spoke with the earnestness of conviction, which gave his speeches at times a power independent of manner. His influence, however, has always been derived rather from his position than from his intellectual powers, but it has always been aided by his amiability of character, and the respect universally felt towards him in private life. His *physique*, too, has been in his favour. How could the sternest of philosophical reformers find it in his heart to be irate with one who bore so portly a presence, and whose face wore the radiance of good-humour and *bonhomie*? The very flower he always had in his button-hole was a kind of guarantee that he was not the bigot of the popular fancy, especially as it was ever a question which was the rosier, the face or the rose?

Sir R. Inglis is an active man in many ways besides his Parliamentary duties—in which, by the way, he was so regular an attendant as to shame many who were his juniors in years and political rank. He has been in the habit of constantly either presiding or assisting at meetings of a religious or benevolent character; and he was assiduous in his attendance at the sittings of learned societies. Of the Society of Antiquaries he is one of the Vice-Presidents. He was elected, in 1850, Professor of Antiquity in the Royal Academy. He is also one of the Governors of King's College, Vice-President of the Clergy Orphan Society, and senior treasurer of that of the Sons of the Clergy. He is a D.C.L. and an F.R.S., and a Deputy Lieutenant of Bedfordshire.

The following is a copy of the letter of Sir R. Inglis, tendering his resignation:—

My dear Mr. Vice-Chancellor,—It is my painful duty to request your permission to retire from the service of the University in the House of Commons—a service which I have found to be alike honourable and delightful; and in which I should have rejoiced to have been enabled to continue longer; but a warning in the state of my health, since my return from the Continent in October last, compels me, according to the judgment of my medical adviser, formally delivered to me a few days ago, to withdraw from the labour of the post in which the favour of Convocation has placed me in nine successive Parliaments.

I still enjoy, thank God, that measure of strength which may be equal to other duties in other stations. I have even well considered, before making this formal communication, whether I might not have lingered as one of your burgesses in my place in Parliament—withdrawing from every other work there except that which was directly connected with my immediate share in the representation of the University. But the distinction is often so fine between the obligations which might devolve upon me in that character, and the obligations which must belong to me as one of the general body of the House, that, having undertaken the whole, I cannot now deceive myself into the belief that I could consistently retain the one portion, and systematically neglect the other.

Though a vacancy cannot literally take place till the House of Commons shall be re-assembled, I feel it to be my duty to intimate thus early my respectful wishes and intentions.

I will not affect to deny that I abandon the House of Commons with considerable reluctance. I have received a very large share of kindness on all sides; without, I hope, any sacrifice of my own opinions. But my chief feeling arises from the severance of my connection with the University. While I live, I hope ever to remember with the deepest gratitude the unabated indulgence with which you and your predecessors, and the whole constituency, have accepted my endeavour to discharge the trust confided to me. To the fulfilment of that trust I claim to have brought nothing except watchfulness and labour; I may, perhaps, add, an adherence to those principles which, as already set forth by me in my previous course in Parliament, originally induced the University, a quarter of a century ago, to place me where I have since continued to sit.

The experience of this unexampled confidence, while it increases my gratitude to those who have conferred it, increases also my regret at my separation from them; and if I could have hoped hereafter to serve them, as in the long period of my previous engagement, I should not now have felt it necessary to place at the disposal of Convocation the greatest honour and one of the greatest enjoyments of my life—my seat as one of their burgesses in the House of Commons—I have the honour to be, my dear Vice-Chancellor, with the greatest respect, your most obliged and most grateful servant,

(Signed)

ROBERT HARRY INGLIS.

7, Bedford-square, Jan. 13, 1854.

EXTRAORDINARY HIGH PRICE OF COALS.—The retail coal-dealers in the metropolis and suburbs advanced the price of coal, on Wednesday, to the enormous amount of 2s. 9d. for second qualities, and 3s. per cwt. for the best; being nearly 150 per cent. dearer than they were at this period last year. This is certainly a very great hardship on the poor, who are unable to purchase in large quantities, as very good coals (per railway), and quite equal to those sold by the retail dealers at 3s. per cwt., can be obtained at 36s. per ton, being at the rate of 1s. 9d. per cwt.; so that actually those dealers who supply the poor, allowing for the many draughts in weighing small quantities, are realising a profit of at least 1s. per cwt., or 20s. on every ton of coals they dispose of. Gas coke has advanced to 1s. 1d. per bushel.

NAVY CONTRACTS.—A supplementary contract for the Royal navy of 3000 tonnes of beef and 3000 tonnes of pork, is announced to be taken on the 24th instant. The *Limerick Chronicle* states that "the recent increase in our fleet, and the important considerations now involved in the war between Russia and Turkey, have called for this additional victualling supply."

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our own Correspondent.)

PARIS, Thursday.

The ball of the past week at the Tuileries—which was in nowise official, and where the invitations were given in the name of the Empress alone—was gayer than the preceding one. No explanation has been given of the cause of M. de Kisseleff being omitted among the *corps diplomatique*. It is known that, at the ball of the Princess Mathilde, given last month, M. de Kisseleff, being proposed the honour of dancing with the Empress, endeavoured to excuse himself, on the score of his unskillfulness in the art—an excuse of which the event seemed to prove the sincerity; but whether this circumstance was supposed to have any connexion with certain reports stating that M. de Kisseleff had spoken disrespectfully of the Empress before her marriage, thus deciding her to leave him out on an occasion where the invitations were issued in her name, or whether there were any motive more especially political, seems not likely to be known. The Emperor and Empress danced repeatedly on this occasion, and conversed with various guests, especially M. and Madame Rogier, the Prince de Chimay, &c. The Empress was attired in a dress of white tulle, with bouquets of sweet pea, and a *coiffure* of the same flowers, and looked remarkably well. At twelve o'clock the supper took place; after which dancing recommenced, and continued till three o'clock. On Tuesday a *bal travestie* took place at the Tuileries, which was as private as a Court fête could be made. The first quadrille *costumé* was conducted by the Princesse Mathilde: the dresses were those of the *Mousquetaires* of Louis XV. On the 28th is to take place another ball of the same sort. A second quadrille *costumé* is to be conducted by the Empress, in which the dresses are to be those of the *Gardes-Françaises* and *Vivandières* of Louis XV.

Certain symptoms appear to give countenance to the notion that Louis Napoleon's ideas, which but a few days since were supposed to be wholly of a warlike tendency, have, from some unknown cause, undergone a slight modification. One of these indications is considered to exist in the fact, that on the presentation of a plan for opening an immense thoroughfare in continuation of the Rue de Strasbourg, as far as the Boulevard Mont Parnasse, the Emperor, though alluding to the inexpediency of commencing such an undertaking at the present crisis, expressed a hope that peace might yet be concluded, and seemed to insinuate that he yet saw a possibility of avoiding the necessity of war. We are assured, on good authority, that the despatch conveyed by M. de Reizet to the Czar was accompanied by an autograph letter from Louis Napoleon. Of course the contents of this missive remain a secret; but the fact, connected with others, seems in itself of no mean significance.

Louis Napoleon last week visited the *atelier* of M. Clésinger, in the Bois de Boulogne, to see the magnificent statue of Francois I., now well advanced, and which will probably be shortly exposed in the Court of the Louvre, and left with the artist the sum of 10,000 francs to aid the progress of the work. It is proposed that this statue, with one of General Charles Abatucci, Marechal Gériard, and between twenty-five and thirty others, shall be placed on pedestals in the avenue of the Champs Elysées, for the opening of the Great Industrial Exhibition.

A portion of the beautiful woods of Versailles, with the noble oaks scattered among them, are being cut down to enlarge the plain of Satory—a circumstance which cannot be viewed without regret by the inhabitants of the town and its environs, of which those woods formed the chief ornament.

It is announced that a grand ball is to take place at the Hôtel de Ville on the 28th of the present month. Occurring in the middle of the Carnival, it will, no doubt, be numerous attended.

The presence of Mr. Lionel Rothschild at Paris last week excited much rumour and speculation. One report stated that his visit was to treat of a loan on the part of the French Government, to be contracted by the house of Rothschild. We believe, however, that his presence was wholly on private business, and in no way connected with public affairs.

It appears from the medical reports that the cholera may be considered as having left Paris. Much illness continues to reign; but contagious maladies, such as fevers, smallpox, &c., are less prevalent.

One of the most serious effects of the late frosts, followed by rain and damp, is beginning to excite much danger and alarm. Several houses—among others, the *Corps de Garde* at the Barrière de Sévres—have given way, and crumbled completely into ruins. At St. Brieux a part of the cornice of the cathedral has fallen; and the bridge of Lucy, across the Rhône, between France and Savoy, has also been destroyed, carrying with it a considerable portion of the road and of the earth surrounding it, from the sinking of the rock on which one end of it was built.

Much and painful sensation has been caused by the death of M. Armand Bertin, editor of the *Journal des Débats*, a man whose talent, honesty, and honourable career rendered him universally respected and esteemed, and gave to the paper in question much of the consideration it has so long enjoyed. The melancholy event was caused by an *angine couenneuse*—a disease of the throat—which choked him during the night, before he could obtain assistance, at the comparatively early age of fifty-one. His interment took place on Saturday, attended by all the *personnel* of the journal, displaying the warmest attachment and respect for his memory; and by a large number of men whose names are marked in the ranks of the most influential members of the *ancienne pairie* and deputies, the *corps diplomatique*, &c.; among others, MM. Guizot, de Salvandy, Thiers, Duchatel, Villemain, &c. At the conclusion of the religious service—which took place at St. Thomas d'Aquin—M. St. Marc Girardin pronounced the funeral discourse over the grave.

The return of the mild weather has permitted the masons, and other out-door workmen, to resume their labours; which will lighten, in some degree, the amount of distress which reigns at present. The works for the completion of the Louvre have recommenced within a few days, and the demolitions in that neighbourhood are going on actively.

The municipal commission having adopted the new plan submitted to it by the Préfet de la Seine for the construction of the central *halles*, or markets of Paris, is about to begin its labours, which will commence by the destruction of parts, or the whole, of some fourteen or fifteen streets, together with all the building of the present *halle aux draps et aux toiles*, an ancient construction of singular structure and considerable size. No doubt these demolitions, penetrating into the very heart of old Paris, will lead to some curious and interesting discoveries; they will at all events, add to the health and cleanliness of the neighbourhood, by removing some of the most confined and filthy portions of the city.

The theatres continue to offer hardly any novelty. "Louise de Nan-teuil," the new work of M. Léon Gozlan, at the Vaudeville, has but little success. "Diane de Lys," at the Gymnase, is much attended, as, in consequence of the engagement of Brissant at the Théâtre de Français, the representations are to finish with the month. The Italiens has given the "Barbier" with moderate success. Rossi was highly applauded; but the utter want of expression and animation, which is the distinguishing trait of Alboni (and which, to our thinking, is a terrible counterbalance to the beauty of her *organe*), and the total incapacity of Tamburini, rendered the performance extremely incomplete as a whole.

It is said that the opening of the session of the French Legislative Body will be this year retarded until February 25th; first, in order to

afford more time for the preparation by the Council of State of the various measures which are to be brought forward; and, next, to allow something definitive to be affirmed relative to the Eastern question.

M. Thiers lately remarked that the Emperor Nicholas at present finds that Russia has in face of her a far more difficult affair than he had ever anticipated, but that, notwithstanding the difficulty of his position, he is not the man to give way: that, in addition he is subjected to the religious pressure of the old Muscovite party—as the Sultan is constrained in a certain measure by the Ulemas and the old Ottoman party. M. Guizot is likewise convinced that the Czar will not abandon an iota of his pretensions.

The preparations making in all parts of France show that, as far as the Government is concerned, there is little, if any, hope of the maintenance of peace. The agents for the purchase of cavalry horses have received orders to provide 400 horses per regiment for the present season, instead of 120, which is the number provided for the ordinary service of the year. An order has also been issued by the Minister of Marine, dated the 14th inst., for the arming of twelve additional ships of the line. Besides this, the following ships are at the present moment getting ready for sea at Brest—viz., the *Tage* and the *Jemappes*, ships of the line of the second rank; and the *Breslau* and the *Inflexible*, ships of the line of the third rank. The extraordinary levy of sailors for the manning of the navy, ordered in the ports of Brittany, has caused great confusion among the merchantmen of those ports. Remonstrances have already been made to the Government on the subject, by the parties interested in the cod fishing, who complain that they cannot find sailors sufficient to man their vessels. The Minister of Marine has replied to these remonstrances, that in the present circumstances the service of the country must be provided for before every private interest. General Pelissier, of the army of Africa, is at present at Paris, and stands exceedingly high, it is believed, in the opinion of the head of the State. It is thought that he will certainly be one of the principal commanders of any expedition of French troops to the East; or, should Marshal de St. Arnaud be in sufficiently good health to assume the chief command (as some persons suppose), many think that General Pelissier will then be appointed Minister of War.

An order has arrived at St. Malo to make a levy of all the seamen of from twenty to forty years of age, who have not passed through four years of service. The only exception to this measure is to be such men as have been dismissed from the service within the space of a year. Much disquietude has been spread through the country at this news. The same will be the case at Granville and in the Bay of St. Brieuc. The Chambers of Commerce are about to make a representation to the Minister of the deplorable state in which all the district of the coast of France which is engaged in the cod fishery at Newfoundland will be placed, should a sufficient number of men not be reserved for these expeditions, which constitute the very existence of that part of the country.

The *Courrier du Havre* says:—"The levy of sailors of from twenty to forty years of age, who have not served four years, has commenced at St. Valery. This measure has spread consternation among the boatmen who carry goods from that town into the interior. They are mostly married men, and with their savings have purchased the boats in which they carry on their business, and in which they reside with all their families, like the mariners of the north. These families, deprived of their chiefs, will be thrown into great distress for want of being able to turn the boats to account during the absence of their owners in the service."

Judgment was pronounced on Monday in the sixth chamber of Correctional Police, in the case of the forty-six persons accused of having belonged to a secret society in Paris, whose trial had been going on for the whole of the past week. Another charge against several of the prisoners was that they had had a clandestine printing-press. All the prisoners, except four, namely, Schindl, Lebouille, Laurent, and Regnier, were found guilty. Bratiano, François, and Furet were condemned to three years' imprisonment, and 500*fr.* fine; whilst all the others were sentenced to one year's imprisonment, and 100*fr.* fine.

SPAIN.

The latest accounts from Madrid state that the Queen was much better, and would be soon well enough to transact business. She had been informed of the death of her child, and was much affected by it. The body of the infant princess had been conveyed to the Escorial with great ceremony. Immediately after the recovery of the Queen, the ministers intend to submit to her measures relative to the press, the electoral and municipal régime, and other important subjects. The Marquis de Turgot had so far recovered on the 11th inst., that his medical attendants had permitted to leave his bed.

There is now a rumour touching affairs at Madrid, the substance of which is, that owing to the profligacy of the Spanish Court, a party is forming with the view of uniting the Crowns of Spain and Portugal on the head of a son of Don Pedro. The rumour must of course be taken with reserve; but it must be said, on the other hand, that such conduct as that which has lately marked the Spanish Court and Government cannot go on much longer, except at the hazard of some violent reaction.

The *Gazette* publishes a Royal decree instituting a biennial exhibition of the fine arts in Madrid, in the month of May. The works of all artists, both Spanish and foreign, are to form part of that exhibition, but those of the latter must have been executed in Spain.

ITALY.

Government is rendering itself perfectly ridiculous by its persecution of all those whose speak in favour of Turkey. Two boys were arrested some days since for having given an Oriental salute, by crossing their arms on their breast and bending their head. The word "Turkish" has been erased from the signboard of the Turkish Coffeehouse, the word "Coffeehouse" remains. Crowds assemble frequently before the house and laugh immoderately. Several children amuse themselves with wearing a crescent on their breast to annoy the police.

The police authorities in Milan are becoming every day more arbitrary. The inhabitants are forbidden to quit their houses or walk the streets without a pass from the prefect of police; otherwise they are imprisoned and fed on bread and water. There is a special carriage attached to every railway train, which is exclusively reserved for the police, that they may examine everybody who travels. The same vigilance is exercised at the theatres.

An important bill concerning the Jews has been presented to the Piedmontese Chambers by the Government. The Israelite population of the kingdom, now divided into the Universities of Piedmont, Monteferrato, Alessandria, and Nice, are authorised to exercise self-government in matters relating to their religion and worship, divided into twenty electoral circles, each of which is to elect a representative to a General Assembly, to meet at Turin every third year, or whenever the Minister of the Interior shall convolve it. The General Assembly fixes the duties of the rabbis, the taxes for the cost of public worship, the general budget, the stipend of Grand Rabbi, &c. One half of the General Assembly is renewed every three years. The General Assembly appoints a central direction of five members, whose duties consist in executing the deliberations of the Assembly, exercising vigilance over all the Hebrew communities of the kingdom, suspending rabbis, &c. Every University elects a Council of Administration, composed of five members, for the superintendence of local interests and worship.

A letter from the Romagna of the 7th, in the *Parlamento* of Turin, states that that province is in great consternation owing to the increase of brigandage. People are afraid of being out late at night, and at Faenza the theatre is quite deserted. At the market of Ravenna corn is sold at 55*fr.* 50*cs.* per sack of one hectolitre and 15 litres. At Lugo corn-dealers are forced by the police to sell corn at 8 scudi (42*fr.* 80*cs.*) per sack. The local authorities at Faenza have forbidden the exportation of corn from their territory.

GERMANY.

On the evening of the 12th a ministerial council was held at Vienna, at which the Emperor presided. It is understood that military preparations were the subject of deliberation. The mobilisation of a corps of from 30,000 to 40,000 men to be sent to the frontier, was again projected, and Field-Marshal Coronini and General Schlick were each spoken of as its probable commander.

The *Vienna Presse* declares itself in favour of non-intervention in the Eastern question on the part of Austria, assigning as a reason the state of Hungary, Italy, and her crippled finances. The journal even tenders its advice to the Government against sending a corps of observation to the frontier, "lest Russia might take it ill." It confesses, however, with a very bad grace, that the idea of a war against Russia has become very popular in Austria.

The *Cologne Gazette* announces that, on the 14th inst., on the termination of a conference with General Count Noetiz, Prussian Minister at Hanover, and one of the relics of Blucher's army, M. Mantuffel, the President of the Council at Berlin, had another conference of extraordinary duration with the French Minister at the Prussian Court.

The *Correspondence* of Berlin announces that, on the representations of the Prussian Government, the interdiction to export articles of food from the kingdom of Poland has undergone an exception in favour of wheat.

TURKEY.

Telegraphic despatches from Constantinople to the 9th inst. bring news of the fleets from the Black Sea. The British and French ships have been seen in the direction of Sinope, but some have been detached and have gone towards Sebastopol. Some of the Turkish vessels had gone to Varna. The Russians had shown themselves by sea before Batoum. Another despatch announces that a division of three Russian men-of-war had appeared in sight off Trebizond on the 31st ult., in the morning, where they made a reconnaissance; and that two other ships had been cruising the evening before off Soukoom Kail.

The *Moniteur* of Monday announced officially that the combined fleets, under Admirals Dundas and Hamelin, entered the Black Sea on the 3rd of January. Despatches from Constantinople of the 5th, state that the English, French, and Turkish fleets were in the Black Sea at that date. The Turkish troops and ammunition destined for Trebizond and Batoum, were conveyed in five Turkish war steamers. The following is the list of vessels now in the Black Sea:—

English: Britannia, Queen, Bellerophon, Rodney, Albion, Vengeance, London, Agamemnon (screw), Sanspareil (screw); Terrible, Retribution, Furious, Tiger, Firebrand—steamers.

Turkish: Taif, Feizi Bahri, Medjidieh, Chaaki Chadi, Muhbiri Suru—steamers. These convey ten thousand troops and warlike stores under cover of our ships.

French: Ville de Paris, Friedland, Jéna, Jupiter, Jemappes, Henri IV., Charlemagne (screw); Gomer, Mogador, Sané, Magellan, Descartes—steamers.

The correspondent of the *Lloyd* writes from Constantinople, under date Jan. 2, that large stores of coal have been purchased, and Turkish vessels hired to transport them to Sinope, where a dépôt for the French fleet is to be formed.

The following is a translation of Lord Redcliffe's and M. Baraguay d'Hillier's message to the Governor of Sebastopol:—

Conformably with the orders of my Government, the British [French] squadron, in concert with that of France [England], is on the point of appearing in the Black Sea. The object of this movement is to protect the Ottoman territory from all aggression of hostile act. I apprise your Excellency thereof with a view to prevent all collision tending to disturb the amicable relations existing between our Governments, which I am desirous of preserving, and which, no doubt, your Excellency is equally anxious to maintain.

To this end, I should feel happy to learn that your Excellency, animated by these intentions, had deemed it expedient to give the requisite instructions to the Admiral commanding the Russian forces in the Black Sea, so as to obviate any occurrence calculated to endanger peace.

REDCLIFFE.

[BARAGUAY D'HILLIER'S].

The letters of both Ambassadors were precisely in these terms, and with the last word underlined as above. The *Retribution* conveyed them to Sebastopol, with a French officer in charge of his own Ambassador's despatch.

A letter from Constantinople, in the *Cologne Gazette*, states that the French Ambassador, in a private audience, had handed to the Sultan an autograph of the Emperor Napoleon, which expressed in the warmest terms of sympathy his regret respecting the catastrophe at Sinope. The Emperor declared in it anew that no violation of Turkey's integrity should take place; and he expressed the hope that the Emperor of Russia would show himself more conciliatory, being now enabled to convince himself of the union existing between France and England.

Lord Dudley Stuart left Constantinople on the 27th ult., and proceeded to Schumla. Several distinguished Englishmen accompanied him.

THE WAR IN ASIA.

A private letter from Trebizond of the 16th ult. furnishes some new and interesting particulars of the situation of affairs in Asia, which show what opportunities have been unimproved by Abdi Pacha, but which still offer themselves to his successor, to whom the Porte has just sent a reinforcement of ten thousand men. Schamyl (says the writer) having been disappointed of quarters at Tiflis through the want of energy of the Turkish commander (Abdi Pacha), is once more in Daghestan, mustering his forces for a new expedition, as he has done many a time before. From this point he extends his operations into all the countries between the Black and Caspian Seas. The Abasians, who have hitherto maintained their independence against Russia, have come to an understanding with him, and will follow his plan of the campaign. The Poles whom Russia had foolishly condemned to serve in the Caucasus, have joined him, furnishing him thus with some excellent officers, and the arms which he has obtained from Constantinople, have enabled him to arm a corps of rifles, 1200 strong, composed for the most part of Polish deserters, excellent soldiers, ready at their weapon, eternal enemies of Russia, and in every way well able to render great service in the mountains. He has also constituted regular reserves of soldiers, arms, and ammunition; and thus, to the advantages previously at his command for a special war, he has added that of a more regular organisation. We may shortly expect to hear that things in Asia have taken a new turn.

It is stated in some of the foreign journals that the Polish and Hungarian refugees who had been waiting for months at Constantinople to be employed, had at last been taken into service, and they were sent off to the army of Asia in the Turkish vessels which sailed on the 2nd. Three of their chiefs had been created Pachas, and nominated Generals of brigade. General Klappa had declined to go to Asia, saying that he preferred serving in Europe.

A Mecklenburg captain, who met the Russian fleet, as it was returning from Sinope to Sebastopol, relates that two of the ships of the line were so much damaged, that although all the guns had been removed, they were in great danger of sinking. The Russians had lost one of their trophies of war. One of the crew of the Turkish steamer, which was taken some time ago by the *Bessarabia*, had been left on board. One day the man found an opportunity of getting into the hold, and succeeded in scuttling the vessel. The water poured in so fast that she went down, with everything that was on board her.

The news from Batoum is looked for with interest, as it was thought that an attack might possibly be made on the vessels lying there. On the 2nd information was forwarded from Constantinople to the *Osservatore Triestino*, that a considerable number of Russian vessels were blockading Batoum; and the *Hamburger Nachrichten* learns, from St. Petersburg, that the Turks are much alarmed about five ships-of-war which they have lying in the port of Batoum. This looks as if mischief were in the wind in that quarter.

RUSSIA.

The *St. Petersburg Court Gazette* of the 9th inst. publishes a most violent article against England. Great Britain, it is said, is the moving cause of all European commotions, and the mischievous intermeddler who has filled the barren fancy of the Turk with an absurd and whimsical notion of "independence." M. de Reizet and the "note" had not reached St. Petersburg on the 9th.

Letters from St. Petersburg to the 7th reflect the uncertainty and hesitation reigning in the Russian capital on the all-absorbing question at that date. According to some the enthusiasm for war had much subsided. One letter mentions a rumour that Count Nesselrode had ventured to suggest to the Emperor that it would be prudent to receive the propositions of the Conference in a friendly spirit, and that the nobility generally at St. Petersburg are anxious for a settlement of the Eastern question, in order to prevent the possibility of a war in Europe. Another writer depairs of peace, and points to the extraordinary preparations for war which were notoriously carried on throughout the years 1852 and 1853 as a proof that any pacific considerations presented to the Emperor's mind would have to contend with a long-cherished contrary design.

The inspections of the fleet, frequently made in 1852 (says this correspondent) as well as those of the army, and the busy activity of commissariat commissions were very significant as to the intention of the Government; and, as persons about the Court expressed it, an "important" move was about to be made. Against whom? that was the secret of the Cabinet. Even the alterations in the Council of Ministers, out of which the grey-headed members retired to make way for younger and more energetic successors, were used as points of combination for the conjectures of many, who found their suppositions often confirmed subsequently by facts. As soon as the Czar's inspections of the army were over, Menchikoff's began, for he then reviewed the troops in the south, inspected the fleet in the Black Sea, and not till then went from Odessa to Constantinople. Prince Gortschakoff, Governor of Poland, was summoned to St. Petersburg; and not till the mission of the High Admiral had failed at Constantinople was the former Prince appointed to the command of a corps and a half, destined for the occupation of the Principalities. In proportion as the Eastern question became more embroiled, the Russian Government proceeded to take the measures required to meet all eventualities. The Emperor reviewed once again the three divisions of the Baltic fleet, and a part of Liders' corps (18th division) was sent by sea to Asia Minor, as a reinforcement to the troops already there. The militia

was called out at the Caucasus. Then the corps of Osten-Sacken was ordered off to the Principalities; the Russian provinces contiguous to the theatre of war declared to be under martial law, and placed under the controul of the respective generals; the recruiting, that is a regular annual occurrence, was renewed by a special ukase, for it was only in Poland that the conscription was stronger last year than usual. Lastly, General Tschoudajeff received orders to mobilise the active army, by raising each and every branch of it to its full complement of men. It was in the month of November last year that the General fully carried out this command, for the zealous performance of which he was rewarded in an extraordinary manner by the Emperor. From all this it is concluded that the Czar's resolution is not a thing of yesterday, to be changed with the varying temper of any other Cabinet or State, or the chances of a war being excited by the entrance of the fleets into the Black Sea.

The Russian Government is making the most energetic preparations for war in every part of the Empire. A letter from Warsaw, of Jan. 7, says:—

The chiefs of the districts of the kingdom of Poland have received the order to draw up a list of all able unmarried men, from the age of eighteen to forty; and to watch them carefully, not to permit them to leave their districts, because the recruiting, which takes place usually at the end of the year, will take place this year in March. This measure will cause a complete desolation in this unhappy country, scarcely recovered from the extraordinary levy which took place last month. The director of the Society of the Landed Property Bank of the kingdom of Poland was recently sent for by Marshal Paskiewitch. "We are in serious circumstances," said the Prince, "and I must request the society to perform an act of patriotism and fidelity to the Emperor. It must be prepared to advance the funds requisite for a loan, to assure the service of the army in the kingdom." "But," replied the director, "the society is not instituted for that purpose; it can only advance money to landed proprietors, on a mortgage on their property; any other act is contrary to the statutes, which but recently received the renewed approbation of the Emperor." "All that is well," replied the Prince, "in ordinary times; but we want money, and if an order from the Emperor is necessary, you shall have one."

Considerable inconvenience is felt in St. Petersburg at the unwillingness exhibited by the English merchants to enter into further commercial transactions for the ensuing summer and autumn. This is the season when the merchants usually make advances on the tallow, hemp, &c., to be delivered in the course of the year. This season, of course, there are no advances, and money matters are thereby much hampered. This will explain why the nobles are said to be urging the Emperor to make peace: they cannot afford to go to war.

New contracts for supplying the Russian army in the Principalities with food and forage, from the month of March next till the end of June, have just been made.

DENMARK.

Overtures have been made from St. Petersburg to the Cabinet of Copenhagen for the cession of the island of Bornholm to Russia. Bornholm is an outlying possession of Denmark in the Baltic, and within a day's sail of the Sound and Copenhagen. We hope, and also believe, that these proposals have been rejected; the more so as such alienation could never receive the sanction of the Danish Diet.

AMERICA.

Our latest advices from New York, by the *Pacific*, which arrived at Liverpool on Wednesday, are to the 7th inst. The political news is not of much importance.

The Central American question was before the Senate, and letters from Lord Clarendon and Mr. Harding, Q.C., were read; and the consideration of the subject was postponed to the 9th instant.

The Message of the Governor of Pennsylvania to his Legislature looks well for the credit of the State. The total debt is 40,272,235 *dols.*, and the estimates and means to meet the periodical interest are ample. Governor Seymour's Message to the Legislature of New York is equally satisfactory to the creditors of his commonwealth with that of Pennsylvania. The total debt is 24,288,000 *dols.*, and the revenues are also ample to meet the yearly interest.

A meeting in advocacy of the Ocean Penny Postage was held in New York, on the 6th inst. The Mayor presided, and pertinent addresses were made by Mr. Elihu Burritt, of Massachusetts, and Hon. John P. Hale.

Senator Seward has introduced a bill for a railroad to the Pacific, to be constructed by a chartered company, but under the control of the Government. The road is to be built north of parallel 40 degrees.

The steam-ship *Empire City*, bound for New Orleans, *via* Havannah, to New York, went ashore on Barnegat, on the 3rd inst. All her passengers, with their baggage, were landed in safety; but the vessel herself would prove a total wreck, it was feared.

The *Staffordshire* packet-ship, which sailed from Liverpool on the 9th of December, had been lost on the Blonde Rock, off Halifax, on the 30th, with the captain and 180 passengers on board. The chief part of the seamen were saved. Many losses had taken place on the American coast. One captain saw some sixty or seventy vessels run ashore as he went round Cape Cod.

The Germans who were arrested for their demonstration against the Papal nuncio, have been released. Public sympathy is now in their favour, and the police are denounced in unmeasured terms. From the evidence at the trial, it is considered by many that the conduct of the police was outrageous and unjustifiable.

The United States has appointed a special committee for the purpose of inquiring into, and reporting upon, the cause of the great mortality on board emigrant vessels.

The Captain-General of Cuba has issued a decree declaring his determination to suppress the slave trade; but authorising, as a substitute, the introduction into the island of free Indian labourers, Asiatics, or Spaniards.

There were three arrivals from California—viz., the *United States* and *California* at New Orleans, the latter with 1,167,000 *dollars*; the *Illinois* at New York, with the mails and passengers of the wrecked steam-ship *Wingfield Scott*, and 1,250,000 *dollars*. The steamer *Perl* sank in the Mississippi on the 31st, and eighteen lives were lost. Count Raossett de Suibon arrived at San Francisco on the 6th ult. The mining accounts were favourable. The Utah Indians were committing depredations in the southern parts of the States.

THE SULTAN GOING TO MOSQUE.

The public attendance of the Sultan at Mosque is a duty held to be incumbent upon him by the ordinances of the Koran, and sanctified by almost unbroken custom. It was for neglect of this duty that, shortly after the conquest of European empire, Selim experienced a severe rebuke from the Judge, who refused to hear the evidence upon oath of a Mahomedan, who had shown himself regardless of the duty and privilege of joining in public prayer with the rest of "the faithful;" and Selim, so far from being angry at the rebuke, took it very kindly to heart, became regular in his attendance at Mosque every Friday (the Turkish Sabbath), and founded a magnificent Mosque at Adrianople, in commemoration of the salutary change in his manners. And the custom is not insignificant in itself: it amounts to a repeated renewal of the acknowledgment that the Sultan, or Padisha, is but the agent of the Prophet upon earth; and that he can do nothing of his own will, but only what he is required and empowered to do by "the Law," which is that of the Prophet. Yet, far from pretending to any divine right, or any unlimited or irresponsible power, as is the case in other unlimited monarchies, his action is strictly circumscribed by a superior power—of whom the chief of the muftis, or Sheikh Islam, is the head—whose sanction must be previously had to all great measures of state policy, more especially the making of war or peace, and whose decision is final on all doubtful points. Such being the case, we are not surprised to find that, whilst in England, and other Christian states, the attendance of the monarch at religious worship, is often done with great privacy, or at least without ceremonious ostentation, the Sultan goes to Mosque in great state, amidst salvoes of artillery, and accompanied by all the great officers and dignitaries of the empire; these precede his Highness on horseback, until they arrive at the entrance of the Mosque, when the pacha alight, and assist their Royal master to descend from his splendidly-caprisoned charger. The costume of the Sultan on these occasions is not so gaudy as English readers might expect; his figure being concealed beneath the ample folds of a black cloak, fastened at the neck with a magnificent brooch of brilliants. In his fez, also, is an aggrate of the same precious materials. The Sultan goes in turn to all the numerous mosques in Constantinople, and the neighbourhood; the Mosque which he attends each successive Friday is generally announced at ten in the forenoon, two hours before the procession and immense throng of people quickly collect in the line of route.



THE SULTAN PROCEEDING TO MOSQUE, AT CONSTANTINOPLE.—(SEE PRECEDING PAGE.)



THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS, THE GRAND DUKE ALEXANDER, AND STAFF, AT ST. PETERSBURG.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

THE EMPEROR NICHOLAS, AND THE HOUSE OF ROMANOFF.

In tragical precedents could, in some measure, operate as salutary lessons, and as a warning to those whom chance has invested with arbitrary power, the picture we propose offering to our readers of the catastrophes and vicissitudes which have, within the last hundred years, befallen the Imperial dynasty of Russia, would fully prove the instability of thrones, and show how easily conspiracies, involving loss of crowns and life, may be concocted in those barbarous regions.

From the time of Peter the Great down to the present Autocrat, not one Emperor of all the Russias (with the exception of Alexander, and even his dissolution at Taganrog—a small town on the banks of the Black Sea—has been the subject of various versions) has quietly breathed his last in an Imperial Palace.

During the reign of the Empress Elizabeth, Iwan Iwanowitch, the rightful heir to the throne and a lineal descendant from Peter the Great, by Court intrigue and a foul conspiracy among the nobles, was cruelly incarcerated, as an idiot, in a dungeon (something like the *Masque de Fer* in the times of Louis XIV.), where, after lingering many years in fearful sufferings, he died at last miserably.

On the accession of Peter the Third, his successor—consort to that demoralized and voluptuous woman, Catherine II., whom fulsome flatterers have wrongfully designated as the *Great*—another conspiracy, at the instigation of the wife, was fomented by several courtiers, at the head of which was Alexis Orloff and his brothers, to dethrone and murder the unfortunate Czar, and place Catherine at the head of Government. Accordingly, upon a given signal, the unsuspecting monarch was violently seized in one of his palaces, and simultaneously attacked by his assassins; and, after a stout and heroic resistance, at length overpowered; and, *sans cérémonie*, strangled in the most barbarous and dastardly manner. Thus perished Peter III., by the instrumentality of an ambitious and criminal woman—a real *Messalina*. After the perpetration of the foul deed, Catherine was immediately proclaimed Empress; and on the assassins, particularly the family of the Orloffs, wealth and titles were profusely lavished.

As far as the character of Peter is known, he is represented as having been of a mild and generous disposition, and likely to have conferred many benefits on the Russian people, had he been allowed to live.

We now come to the Emperor Paul I., son of Peter III. and Catherine, and father of the late Emperor Alexander; of Nicholas, the present reigning one; of Constantine, deceased; and of the Grand Duke Michel; and of the present Queen Dowager of Holland.

As the melancholy end of this misguided Sovereign may probably still be within the recollection of a few of our readers, our notice of his boisterous career shall be brief, and merely relate to a few incidents in connection with his short reign of four years—from 1796 to 1800.

Paul, though exhibiting from his early youth symptoms of great eccentricity, irritability, and unbounded despotism, which his mother (Catherine) tried in vain to curb, had, nevertheless, at times, moments of a kind disposition, which the following anecdote will fully illustrate:—

Scarcely had he arrived at power, when his attention was drawn to the fate of the brave but unfortunate Kosciusko, the illustrious Polish hero, who, at the last struggle for the independence of his country, had been made prisoner, sent to Russia, and, by order of Catherine, was strictly confined at Schlisselburg, an isolated castle on the banks of the Ladoga Sea, suffering from a number of wounds received in battle. Paul repaired to his dungeon in person, and, after staying with him for a considerable time, in the most graceful manner (reports state that he even shed tears), restored the Polish veteran—the friend of Washington and Lafayette—to liberty, with permission to proceed wherever he liked. Kosciusko returned to the United States, the first field of his glory, where he remained a few years, but subsequently recrossed the Atlantic, and took up his final abode at Soleure in Switzerland, where he was visited by the late Emperor Alexander, and there closed his eventful career at an advanced age.

The politics of Paul were as inconsistent as his general conduct was eccentric. To the French Revolution of 1789 he had the most decided abhorrence: none excited his anger in a greater degree than the doctrine of the Jacobins. He fancied he could discover a member of that association in dress, gesture, speech, and general behaviour. So intense was his impression in this respect, and so fearful was he of contagion, that hardly a day passed in St. Petersburg during his reign, but some unfortunate individual was dragged into prison, substantially knouted; yea, often sent to Siberia, for the mere offence of wearing cropped hair, tight pantaloons, a coat cut à la Française, a cravat tied à l'incroyable, a hat of a Republican shape, or sharp-pointed boots. These, and an infinity of other trifles, were considered as sure signs of Jacobinism, and incurred severe punishments. Whenever the Emperor was perceived, even at a great distance, it was incumbent on every one, male and female, and however inclement the weather, to prostrate themselves in the dirt, on pain of being immediately arrested, and receiving a due proportion of knout. The public at length got so terror-stricken, that few ventured into the streets. General discontent, and a determination to get rid of the tyrant, was now the order of the day. It was secretly whispered that his intellect was impaired; that leaving arbitrary power in such hands was to run the risk of existence every moment; and that the only remedy was abdication, even at the sacrifice of his life, and to place Alexander, his eldest son, on the throne.

It has been said, but we do not warrant the truth of the assertion, that the latter was perfectly privy to the plan, and that he gave his unqualified assent, with the reserve only, that the person of his father should not be in the least hurt. The promise was given, but how far it was kept will be seen in the sequel.

Seeing the storm gather round him, and fearing that an explosion might sooner or later take place, the Emperor Paul determined to guard against the danger of surprise as far as he could. With this view, he built, in the heart of St. Petersburg, near the Fontanka, a branch of the Neva, a splendid palace, surrounded by water on all sides. He caused the strongest fortifications to be erected, and mounted them with ordnance. It was occupied by a formidable body of troops, commanded, as he conceived, by faithful officers. Everything was calculated to make a stout resistance, in the event of an attack. Within the precincts of this fortress, the Czar, on the first moment of an insurrectionary movement in his capital, intended to retire and defend himself to the last extremity. But the walls which were intended as his protection became his grave. The name of this palace was, and is, Michaelowsky, for it still stands, as a monument of folly and reproach.

The plan of acting having been duly matured by the conspirators, some of the most resolute—among which may be mentioned Zouboff, Painin, Beningsen, &c.—fixed on the day when their design was to be carried into effect. Armed cap à pie, they repaired, one morning in the spring of the year 1800, to the Michaelowsky palace, demanding to see the Emperor. Admittance was refused, as strict orders had been given to let nobody pass unless properly authorised. Upon which Zouboff, seizing his dagger, laid the guard prostrate at his feet; in the like manner they killed several others on their passage to the Emperor's apartments, and before any alarm could be given. Paul, on seeing these grim faces enter, all of whom he knew to be his sworn enemies, with an angry look and action, inquired what brought them into his presence, what they wanted, and by whose authority they ventured to make their appearance.

Without taking the trouble of satisfying his curiosity, the conspirators, in the most insolent and peremptory manner, replied that they were come to insist on his abdicating the crown; that the nation was completely tired of his misrule; and that he had better submit to his fate with resignation, instead of attempting any resistance, which would be utterly useless. Paul was of an athletic figure, possessed of herculean strength, and by no means deficient in courage. He listened to their proposal in silence; and, after a pause—whether inspired by the dignity of his position, or conceiving that his bodily strength was capable of thwarting any violence that might be offered to his person—he, with the most determined accent, declared that, so far from resigning his authority, he would severely punish all those who had the temerity to propose it. At the same time he commanded them to withdraw, and tried to effect his escape, through a trap-door, down a secret staircase, by means of which he intended to join his guards. But even in this he was foiled by the conspirators, who, with daggers in their hands, told him to desist, at the peril of immediate death.

The conversation, or rather the opprobrious language, which had been resorted to, did not, however, discourage either Zouboff, Painin, or any of the other conspirators. They resumed that he must, *bien sûr*, abdicate; and that they would have recourse to force if he persevered in his refusal. High words and abuse ensued: at last it came to blows. Paul, by his muscular power, felled one or two of his assailants; and, for a time, the issue of the struggle appeared doubtful. But Zouboff, likewise a man of uncommon physical powers, having rallied, seized the Emperor by the throat, threw him on the ground, and, hastily drawing a pocket-handkerchief from his pocket, strangled him, after the most determined resistance.

Such was the melancholy fate of Paul I., Emperor of All the Russias. Detested among all classes of his subjects, on account of his cruelty,

tyranny, and despotic rule, little or no sympathy was felt for his untimely end; on the contrary, it was looked upon as an act of grace rather than as a crime. On the following day his death was announced as having been produced by a fit of apoplexy, and Alexander was proclaimed Emperor. As in the case of the murder of Peter III., none of the assassins of Paul were punished, but rewards heaped upon them.

With regard to the foreign policy of the late Emperor Paul, as we have before observed, it was as inconsistent as eccentric. Wishing to curb the power of England, he concluded treaties, under the denomination of "Armed Neutrality," with the Courts of Denmark and Sweden, the object of which was to secure the inviolability of their flag against the encroachment of Great Britain, establishing the principle that their colours should protect ship and cargo. The treaties, moreover, enacted that in the event of England objecting to these stipulations, the Sound and all the Baltic ports should be closed against her shipping.

The British Ministry, far from approving a coalition which so materially affected English commerce, lost no time in dissolving this unexpected league. They despatched without delay Admiral Lord Nelson with a considerable fleet to the Sound, who, in the beginning of April, 1801, fought before Copenhagen one of the hardest battles in which he had ever been engaged. From that day the Northern Confederacy was put an end to.

We have before remarked that the progress of the French Revolution of '89 was a source of continued uneasiness and ill-humour to the mind of the Emperor Paul. He had given an asylum to Louis XVIII.; he now fancied that he had the power, and was destined, to restore the Bourbons to the throne of France. Impressed with this idea, he ordered a formidable army of 80,000 or 90,000 men, headed by the celebrated Souwaroff, known to Europe by his sanguinary proceedings in Poland, and by his relentless slaughter of the Turks, to march into Italy, then occupied by the French. His orders were, moreover, that, having scoured, or rather re-conquered, that country, he should forthwith enter France, and, supported by the combinations of the Royalist party, effect a counter revolution, occupy Paris, annihilate every vestige of Jacobinism, and seat the Bourbons on the throne of their ancestors. Such were the instructions confided to the hitherto invincible Souwaroff.

The Russian commander, *alias* the "savage"—a cognomen by which he went—after many forced marches, reached Italy at last, with a well-equipped army, the élite of Russia. In every battle which he fought with the French, he was triumphant, particularly at that of Novi, where Joubert, General-in-Chief of the Republicans, was slain, and nearly the whole of the French army destroyed. Discouraged by so many defeats, the Republicans fled in every direction, whilst Souwaroff pursued his victorious career with unrelaxing activity. By so many consecutive successes, the whole of Italy was at length cleared of the enemy, and the Russian commander now contemplated the invasion of France, in obedience to his instructions.

He chose, as the preferable point, the Passage of St. Gothard, with a view of attacking Masena, one of the greatest captains of the age, who occupied a strong—almost impregnable—position in the neighbourhood of Zurich. But here good fortune forsook the Russian chieftain, Souwaroff and his Russians were completely beaten. Heart-broken, and unable to bear up against a defeat, he fled precipitately and in despair into Germany, ordering his comrades in arms to bury him *alive*, but none would obey. With the scanty remnants of his legions he returned to Russia, where not long after he closed his extraordinary career in disgrace.

Having now given, as succinctly as we could, a narrative of the deplorable end of the three Emperors—Iwan, Peter, and Paul—in the course of which we could not avoid introducing a few incidents in connection with their reigns, which we hope have not been unacceptable to the reader, we now pause. We have purposely abstained from touching on the various political crimes committed by Catherine and Alexander, such as the partition of Poland, the clandestine and treacherous invasion of Finland, and an infinity of others, on which public opinion has already passed condemnatory sentences. Perhaps the day of retribution is not far distant.

Upon the preceding page we give an Engraving representing the Emperor Nicholas and the Grand Duke Alexander surrounded by their suite, as they appear on the occasion of military reviews in St. Petersburg. The Portraits and equipments are all from authentic sources.

THE DUCHESS OF ORLEANS AND THE FUSIONISTS.

The Duchess of Orleans, who was said to have given her sanction to the foolish, unprincipled "Fusion" movement, has met the rumour to that effect with a most distinct contradiction. By the publication of a letter to the Duke de Nemours, of which the following is a translation:

Eisenach, Dec. 10, 1853.

My Royal and Dear Brother-in-law—I have received your last despatch, by which you engage me again to enter frankly into the "fusion" which you have concluded by your visit at Fohsdorf.

If I enter it at all, I should surely enter it frankly, and I would, by the principle of peace, which is the basis of the Christian religion, agree at once with the proposition which you make me this time with so much earnestness; but the same motives which have hindered my consent when that question was debated in presence of our august and dear mother at Claremont, must again engage me to persist in my reflections, and thus to retard my entry, or rather that of my sons, into this union.

I will again and concisely explain myself. I well know that you, my dear brother-in-law, as well as others, will tax me with obstinacy. If I and the family peace were the only questions here I should at once consent; I have not sown discord, and it would therefore be easy to me to co-operate for peace. But here the question is that of the sacred rights of my sons, they are orphans, they have only myself for their maintenance; and, in defending their rights as much as possible, I defend in them the principle of elective Royalty, which took its birth in the Revolution of 1830—a principle, which was the guide of Ferdinand, my poor husband, whose memory will always be dear to me, and by the maintenance of which he knew, as well as by his natural affability, to conciliate the opinions of the great majority of Frenchmen.

To enter into this union—into this *political pact*—is nothing else but an acknowledgment, full and entire, of Legitimacy; and whatever respect I may individually, and even by my birth, profess for that principle, it is impossible that, consequent with myself, I can forget the circumstances under the influence of which your father became King, and under which, also, I, a woman, ventured, in braving the dangers of a momentary sur-excitation, to present myself in the midst of the Chamber of Deputies, to claim there the crown which I dreamt of for my son, and—what do I say?—which I dream of still for him. Men, people may change; impetuous Providence shows, after the time of trial, its will and eternal justice at the day marked in advance on its golden pages. I have faith in it; it will repair the wrongs which I have sustained—which we have sustained without any fault of ours, &c.

(Signed) HELENE, Duchesse D'ORLEANS.

WILLS.

Special letters of administration with the will and codicils of the Right Hon. Countess of Newburgh, late of Hassop-hall, Derby, wife of Colonel Leslie, have been granted to the Colonel, as sole executor, and, as the husband, being entitled to all property over which she had no disposing power. The will is dated July 30, 1853, devising her real estates, in the counties of Sussex, Gloucester, and Northumberland, to Colonel Leslie; the estates in Derby, to the Hon. George Fraser, third son of Lord Lovat, and his heirs; her furniture at Hassop, as her jewels; Colonel Leslie to obtain the Royal license to use, take, and bear the names and arms of Raclayre and Eyre, and the devisees of the Derby estates the name of Eyre only; hequeaths the residue, real and personal, to Colonel Leslie. The two codicils were made on the day of her decease, the 23rd November, 1853, bequeathing £200 for the benefit of Hassop Chapel, the surplus to the officiating clergyman; and any other charities to be attended to, as the Colonel might judge fit, to be given in her name, and bequeathing to him Shindon and Hassop, with all other properties and everything she possesses. (Signed) DOROTHY, Countess of Newburgh.

The will of Sir Richard Kellett, Bart., of Mespil Parade, Dublin, has been proved in London, and also in the Prerogative Court, in Ireland; there being £2000 personalty in this country and within the province of Canterbury. Probate was granted to the son, Sir William Henry Kellett, Bart., the sole executor. To his widow, Lady Kellett, he leaves the interest of his Long Annuities for life, and £2000 absolutely, together with the furniture; the residue, real and personal, to his son, Sir William.

Miss Margaret Creak, late of the city of Norwich, died possessed of funded and personal property to the amount of £35,000; leaving also other estates and effects, which are to be applied for building an hospital for destitute foreigners, men and women, under sixty-eight years of age; they are to be provided with a peculiar dress—the men to wear blue coats and black buttons, and the women purple stuff, shot with orange, checked aprons and hankerschiefs.

The late Mr. William Maltby, Librarian to the London Institution, who died on the 5th inst., at the age of ninety, has bequeathed a legacy of 300 guineas to the said institution, to which he was also honorary secretary.

Pulteney Mein, Esq., formerly surgeon in the 73rd Foot, and late of North Britain, has died, leaving personal property in this country amounting to £120,000.

COTTON IN INDIA.

THE fear has been often expressed that a war with an empire so vast as Russia, extending from Germany to the frontiers of China, may possibly bring us into collision with it in Asia as well as in Europe. There is no room to doubt that whenever disaffection has been excited against our rule on our Indian frontier, Russian emissaries have had something to do with it. As yet, however, all the efforts of Russia to endanger our dominion in the East have proved abortive. But we may be sure that a Government whose policy is so deep rooted, is not to be finally deterred by small difficulties or by repeated failures. Its plans of aggrandisement and aggression have long been formed, and steadily pursued. For 150 years it has been watching Constantinople, eager for the arrival of the favourable moment which should allow it to take possession of the rich and coveted prize. For thirty years it has been regarding the British empire in India, with motives quite as sinister, and with a policy as pertinacious. It behoves us, therefore, to be prepared on all points when we have to face so wily an enemy. Not that we imagine there is much danger. The Allies upon whom the Czar might be supposed to reckon are not to be trusted. They may dislike England much, but they dislike Russia more. The Mahometan Princes of India do not look upon England as the enemy of their faith, but the war which the Czar has declared against the Sultan has a religious character impressed upon it by the Czar himself, of which the Mahometan States in our Indian possessions, and on our frontiers, are quite aware, and which they are far more likely to resent and to combat than to approve. Besides, they are not at all convinced that Russia is not a more formidable enemy to their political independence and existence than England. Even Persia has, upon second thoughts, deemed it more prudent to remain the friend of England than to become the ally of Russia. It will, for many reasons, be no easy matter even to assail us in that quarter. But a wise Government ought not to rely too much upon the difficulties which may beset an ambitious or revengeful assailant; neither should it rely exclusively upon its own might in the battle-field, to maintain its power in a conquered country. The possible revolt of the native population and the hostile inroads of dissatisfied or greedy neighbours, may be guarded against by other means than standing armies. Hitherto we have maintained ourselves in India by the strong arm; but it is beginning to be recognised by the inhabitants of India that our Government has, upon the whole, been beneficial to their country, and that a movement has at last been made for the development of its material resources, which it would be vain for them to expect, if the English were driven out of India, and a native or alien government established in their stead. In a country so vast and so fertile, it is impossible to predict what great summit of prosperity may not be attained during the next twelve or twenty years, if railroads are constructed, as in all probability they will be, to connect all the principal towns and cities, and if its great agricultural wealth shall thereby be transmitted with cheapness and regularity from province to province, and from every part of the interior to the sea-coast. Long before the present difficulty arose between Russia and the Porte, the busy but thoughtful men of Manchester were of opinion that much and lasting benefit would accrue both to England and to India, if we could draw a portion, if not the whole, of our supplies of cotton from that magnificent dependency. If India supplied us annually with only half as much cotton as we now import from the United States, we should have a security for the permanency of our power quite as valid, and far more profitable, than the armies that we have hitherto been obliged to maintain. But, can India grow cotton enough for us? British India grew cotton before America was discovered, and vastly excelled Europe in the arts of spinning and weaving. The beautiful products of Hindostan were chiefly consumed in England—a trade which excited the bitter condemnation of Daniel De Foe, who wrote in favour of protection to our own woollens and silks. But about the year 1821, English cotton twist invaded the markets of India, and its manufactures speedily declined.

Desirous, for purposes of their own, to ascertain whether India could supply this country with a sufficient quantity of cotton—and what circumstances, political or social, or merely physical, prevented the possible supply from being raised, and if raised, from being transported from the interior to the coast—the late Mr. Alexander Mackay was appointed by the Chambers of Commerce of Manchester, Liverpool, Blackburn, and Glasgow, to visit India, and there collect information. "He was instructed," says Mr. Bazley, in the introduction to a recently published volume,* "to elicit the truth without fear or favour, and to send to this country only such reports on the condition of India as could be implicitly relied on." Of his fitness for this mission, Mr. Bazley speaks in the highest terms. "To the personal merits of Mr. Mackay, to his truthfulness and untiring industry, a higher tribute of praise is due, than could with propriety be introduced into a work of commercial and political elucidation." This appears to us an overstrained forbearance in the writer of the preface, more especially as the author is dead. We have read the work through carefully, and bear willing testimony to its varied excellence. Mr. Mackay was not only a laborious collector of facts, but he weighed them cautiously, and his discrimination was equal to his diligence. He was eminently cautious in examining witnesses; and avoided the too frequent error of drawing general conclusions from particular statements. His descriptions of the various systems of landed tenure prevalent in India are full of learning and research. He points out, with great clearness, the defective state of the roads, and the imperfect modes of irrigation, and suggests remedial measures. The volume is illustrated by diagrams, maps, and statistical tables, and may be studied with advantage by the merchant and the legislator. Mr. Mackay's premature death was not only a sad affliction to his friends, but a loss to society; and Mr. Bazley, than whom no one is more competent to form a correct judgment, has observed "that his reports afford ample evidence that he faithfully discharged his duty; and from their tone and contents it is most probable that if he could have been spared, to have entirely completed all his intended in-

* "Western India," by the late Alexander Mackay, Esq. Edited by James Robertson, Esq., with a Preface by Thomas Bazley, Esq. Nathaniel Cooke.

vestigations, there would have resulted from his labours revelations beyond the anticipation of his employers."

Mr. Mackay's inquiries were principally directed to British Guzerat, comprising the four collectorates of Surat, Broach, Kaira, and Ahmedabad; but he also investigated the agricultural and revenue system of the Southern Mahratta country, and has given some able criticisms on what is called "The New Survey." The view that he took of his mission will be best stated in his own words:—

I have been sent hither (writes Mr. Mackay) to inquire into the obstacles which prevent an increased growth of cotton in India. The capacity of the country for increased production, is here taken for granted, the only question being, why is such production checked? But a demand exists, and yet the supply is deficient. A demand, then, existing on the part of England, beyond the supplies which she receives, and capabilities of production existing on the part of India, to a greater extent than are brought into action, why do not the capabilities of the one meet the wants of the other? The inquiry, as regards cotton, resolves itself into two questions for consideration; the capacity of India to produce, and her ability to export. Can she produce cotton in greater quantities than she can consume, or than she now produces? If so, why are not her exports greater and more regular than at present? If she has productive powers, which have not hitherto been called into play, why do they lie dormant? Is the cause to be attributed to the intervention of circumstances remediable, or the reverse? and if so, what are the circumstances which intervene?

With the single exception of the salt tax, the revenues of the East India Company are derived from the rent of land, and the subsidies paid to it by tributary princes. The Company is the territorial proprietor of the soil, the sole landlord of every acre within its dominions. There is no race of really free cultivators; but a disguised system of serfdom, under a nominal liberty. The rents are high, the tenure is uncertain—two conditions fatal to agriculture. No inducements are held out to improved tillage, for no man is stimulated by the prospect of accumulation. If he render his holding more productive, the benefit is not enjoyed by himself, but is transferred to the Company, in the form of augmented rent. Thus, the reward of the cultivator is never allowed to exceed the barest means of subsistence. He is always indebted to the money-lender of the village for the means of purchasing seed; his growing crops are security for repayment of the loan, for which he is often charged an interest from forty to fifty per cent. Till very lately—only just before the renewal of the late Charter—the mode of collecting the land-tax was most oppressive.

Of the excessive exactions of the Company in the shape of rent, Mr. Mackay gives the following summary, after having minutely submitted all the details to a critical examination:—

I have shown that the Government rent does not always indicate the full amount which the ryot has to pay for his lands: that the average Government rental of the British collectorates is 52 per cent of the produce—that the average Government rental of Broach is 48 per cent—that that of Kaira is about 50 per cent, and that of Surat about 59, and that that of the actually cotton-producing lands of Broach is 43 per cent. I have shown the additional sums paid by the cultivators to the Bhagdars and others upon the average assessment; still further, I have shown that the larger rent charged upon the alienated lands brings up the common average of the collectorates to about 57 per cent, and that upon the cotton-growing lands of Broach to about 59 per cent. And, in addition to all this, taking a still wider range, and embracing the native as well as the British districts—the high rent of the former being maintained by the high standard at which those of the latter remain—I have shown that the average rental of the whole province is about 60 per cent of its gross produce. I have likewise explained, taking Broach as an example, how the farmer realises scarcely more than the wages of a labourer in an average year; how the land has no saleable value—the evils incident to a system requiring constant remissions; and how, in most years, maximums fixed at scarcely attainable points, are but an imperfect protection to the ryots against the ignorance, recklessness, or indiscretion of a collector.

One of the most delicate and difficult points in Mr. Mackay's inquiry is the competition of America, where the quality of cotton is decidedly superior. Mr. Mackay devoted much labour to elucidate this branch of the problem; and, in his fourth chapter, the reader will find elaborate statistics, of which we can only condense the substance. Some of the richest soils of Mississippi and Alabama excepted, the lowest average remunerating price to the American planter at the port of shipment is computed at 3½d. sterling per lb.; but Guzerat cotton at the port of shipment must realise 3½d. The selling price of American cotton at Liverpool, merely to cover expenses, is put down at 4½d.; that of Indian at 4d. So far the difference is only ½d., or scarcely six per cent; but the difference of value, as determined by the relative qualities of the two cottons, is generally estimated at 25 per cent.

To enable Guzerat cotton (says Mr. Mackay) to sell at its cost price—that is, merely to cover expenses—American cotton must be selling at from 18 to 20 per cent above its cost price! In other words, realising a profit. When the price of American cotton is beyond this, that of Guzerat cotton rises to a profit-paying point; but when, on the other hand, the price of American cotton is below this, that of Guzerat cotton necessarily falls below the point at which it will cover expenses; and, again, when American sinks to its cost price, the importer of Guzerat cotton is losing from 18 to 20 per cent upon the article.

With these facts before us, it is evident that the main point to determine is whether the cost of producing Indian cotton can be reduced? and Mr. Mackay gives his reasons why that can be accomplished. He considers that the cost per pound at Bombay, the shipping port, may be lowered to 2d.; but we must refer to the volume for the details of the calculation. At Liverpool, then, the cost of Guzerat cotton would be 2½d. instead of 4d.: so that, compared with the price of American cotton at the same place, the difference in the relative prices would be 35 per cent. But the quality of the latter still remaining 25 per cent superior—which must, of course, be taken into account—the difference in price still remains 10 per cent in favour of India. This effected, Mr. Mackay is decidedly of opinion that the quality would be rapidly and greatly improved, and the consumption in England greatly increased.

In taking leave of this highly instructive volume, we can cordially recommend it to our manufacturers, and indeed to all who feel an interest in British India, the brightest jewel in the English Crown. There need be no fear for British rule in India if justice be done to the native population. Already they enjoy more freedom than they could expect under a Government of their own, or under that of any other which could be substituted for that of Great Britain. The development of their vast agricultural, mineral, and trading resources, is the one thing needed to secure our dominion. The mere threat of a Russian attack will not prove useless, if it lead to a more earnest attention to the subject than it has hitherto received. With railroads constructed by British capital and skill, and cotton produced in all the cotton districts of that noble Empire, we may bid defiance to Russia and rest secure of the attachment of the Indian population.

LITERATURE.

A SKETCHER'S TOUR ROUND THE WORLD. By ROBERT ELWES. Hurst and Blackett.

This is a clever and a remarkable book. Mr. Elwes was as erratic, though not so short, as *Puck* proposed to be; and really circumvented the globe (from March, 1848), in two years and a quarter, travelling 36,000 miles in that elongation of the spirit's forty minutes. In his preface he states that his travels were undertaken for no purpose but his own amusement. But Mr. Elwes was in earnest nevertheless. He started for Madeira, and ran on, via Teneriffe, to the Brazils; and, after that, it seems to have mattered little to him which way the first ship that sailed was going; he put his luggage on board, and went wherever the vessel happened to be directed or driven. Thus, at Honolulu, he tells us, "There were two or three schooners in harbour, one a nice-looking craft, of about 100 tons, bound to Tahiti; so, thinking I might just as well go there, I went on board, looked at the accommodation, and saw the captain." She was from California, and was on her way to Hobart town, "probably calling at New Zealand;" and as this suited our author very well, he took his passage accordingly. It was the same throughout his whole journey. He was ready to go anywhere and everywhere; for he was sure there must be something to sketch wherever he went.

His principal points may be thus enumerated. Rio Janeiro, an excursion into the interior, Bahia, the Amazon, Monte Video, Buenos Ayres, scamper à la Head across the Pampas, crossing the Andes, Santiago, Lima, the Sandwich Islands, Australia, Hobart Town, Melbourne, &c.; Manila, Hong-Kong, Macao, Shanghai, Singapore, Sumatra, Ceylon, Aden, Cairo, Malta, Sicily, Italy, Switzerland, Holland, home. The remarks upon most of these "sights" are natural and easy. There is no fine or laboured writing, and no scientific pretensions; and, except when a grand landscape, a striking sea-view, or splendid waterfall occurs to be drawn, very little enthusiasm. All else is described like every-day work; and, but for the novelty of some of the places visited, and a sprinkling of anecdotes and incidents connected with them, we could have fancied going round the world resembled going to Hampstead, Eridge, or Sydnham, where the Crystal Palace is.

The twenty-one sketches present beautiful or very remarkable scenes, and add a chief interest to the handsome volume—of the literary contents of which we shall select a few specimens of the briefest and most popular character, leaving the travel at large to be perused in *Loco*. In the forests of Brazil, Felix, the writer's guide, is described as knowing the properties of the different trees: "One with leaves something like an oak, and a smooth bark (supposed to be a sort of *Tatropa*) stung like a nettle. Another (*Angica*) was announced to be good for tanning, another for making ropes, another for curing the bites of poisonous snakes; and it is said that the Armadillo, when wounded by fighting with snakes, runs to this tree, and eating some of the leaves, renders the bite harmless; but no other animal possesses this important secret." Commerce will probably not be long in ascertaining the qualities of the Brazilian trees, and turning them to good account; as for our traveller, his toils and researches were rewarded by the magnificent Falls of Paulo Afonso, of which we owe to the pencil an excellent representation.

The Amazon River, as is well known, traverses a region on which another new world of men may be planted and supported. But we must quit its vast expanse of waters for the vast expanse of land, the Pampas, over which Mr. Elwes rode as if his life depended on exertion and speed. "As we proceeded (he tells) we found the country was a perfect sea of thistles, and from a slight elevation you could see over their tops for miles. The wind whistled mournfully through them, and eddied the downy seed like snow across the road. They had had notice to quit; the powerful November sun had scorched them up, and they were waiting to be swept down by the first *pampero*. Their height was not more than six feet; so that you could generally see people riding in them, but not cattle. In some places were many biscacho holes, with their attendant ewls, which stared and bowed at us as we rode past, or rose, screeching, perpendicularly in the air, if we came close, whilst the biscacho dived into the ground."

Scotland's famous thistle-land must yield the palm to the Pampas, as its mountains must yield to the giant Andes; and the mind of man must almost sink in the contemplation of these enormous features of inanimate nature. How small the most consequential atom of humanity would appear on the interminable expanse of plain; how insignificant in climbing, pismire-like, the prodigious chain that shuts the Pacific Ocean from his sight! Mr. Elwes's journey is interesting throughout; and his subsequent voyage to and trips among the Sandwich Islands, yet more curious and novel. The American missionaries are much censured and ridiculed:—

We lived (he says) very well at Kailua (a village on the sea shore). We generally sat down about sixteen to dinner, the King sitting at the head of the table—I on his right hand, the Prince on his left. Our dinners were partly in the native style, comprising a good many dishes of different sorts of fish—some cooked, some dried, and some raw; pork dressed in several ways, and what in Hawaii is considered a great delicacy, a large dish of dog. This was dressed in the native way, wrapped in leaves, and put in the ground with a fire over it, and then served up in a large calabash. I generally ate some of it, and found it very good. It was fat, and tasted something like pork. The dogs bred up for the purpose are fed on nothing but poe, potatoes, cocoa-nut, and vegetable substances; so there is no reason why they should not be good.

Yet no other dog (says Mr. Elwes) will taste it. This latter fact is curious, if true.

But Mr. Elwes's track is too long for us to follow it out, even with the most incidental references; and we can only mention a few matters which may be new to readers. For example, that eating a raw onion is the best cure for the effects of rarity of air at great elevations (let all future Cockney excursionists to Mont Blanc try it); and that the fruit of the passion-flower is extremely pleasant. In Rio, Mr. Elwes saw a beggar who had two slaves to carry him to his regular begging-place, where they left him "all day and returned for him in the evening. There are curious stories of strolling actors and their troupes—horse and foot; as well as of the famed jugglers of the East, with an anecdote relating to whom we shall conclude:—

In Canton one day some Englishmen saw two men quarrelling; and, at last, one, overcome with rage, rushed at the other, and cut his throat. The blood gushed forth in torrents, and the man fell down as if dead. A large crowd had collected at the spot, but no one interfered; and the Englishmen, struck with horror, were debating whether they should seize the murderer, when, to their astonishment, the man who had his throat cut, jumped up, with a grin on his face, and went round with a plate to collect money.

Other performances are even more wonderful, but our tale is told, and we have only to recommend Mr. Elwes's "Tour Round the World" as one of the most amusing and instructive books ever brought under our notice.

LETTERS OF LAURA D'AUVERNE AND OTHER POEMS. By CHARLES SWAIN. Longman and Co.

Poetry and Manchester! A votary of Apollo, a voluntary denizen of the city of smoke and steam? A dreamer of Arcadia, content to dwell beneath the grim shadows of gigantic chimneys, and amid the whirl of ceaseless wheels? A bard among money-makers? Music, and sweet music, too, soaring heavenward above the din of machinery, and the clamours of the market-place? Even so. And wherefore not? Is the poet so dependent upon outward things that he must needs tabernacle among "hills which look eternal," beside "streams that lucid flow for ever," and under skies within whose starry "azure, his raised soul may tread in glory"? Nay, we estimate the poet's power too meanly if we reason thus: for his very name should teach us better. Wisely thought the old Greeks when they named him "Maker." Arcadia, it is within him. Music, it is an element of his nature. Bright stars and azure heavens, they shine for him, through every season and in every place, in those hopes and aspirations which carry him beyond "things seen and temporal" to the height and grandeur of "things not seen and eternal." Demandest thou, O unbeliever! evidence to prove our case? Lo, a witness is at hand. Stand forth, Charles Swain, of Manchester, and make our assertion good: a witness, truly, who had before spoken in those "Dramatic Chapters" and "English Melodies" of his, which the discerning world has already pronounced worthy, and who now speaks again, not less potently, in his "Laura D'auverne," and lyrics of peculiar grace and sweetness. Question him, reader, examine him again and again, and we know the result must be a confession that even Manchester may nurture poets—for Charles Swain is one.

Very heartily do we commend Mr. Swain's latest publication to all true lovers of his art. The letters of "Laura" develop an interesting domestic history, in stanzas, at once remarkable for their harmony and passion. The story is simply and earnestly told, and is something more than a mere strain of pleasing melody or strong emotion. There is an

object in it beyond its music. The poet teaches while he sings. Laura's tale, however, occupies little more than a fourth of the book. The remainder is made up of "Poems and Songs." Most agreeably so, for Mr. Swain's power is eminently lyric; and this volume contains some of his choicest efforts. Quotation would only mangle them; they must be read in their entirety to be appreciated. "Work," "Faith," and "When the Heart is Young," occur to us, as we write, as among the most notable—but all of them are excellent. Nor must we forget to give our author one praise especially his due. He has avoided the besetting sin of modern times. He is no mystic. He perpetuates no effusions of language, and is guilty of no tricks of art. He does not make himself obscure in order that he may be thought to be profound. He is neither conceited nor oracular. He indulges in no morbid fancies or sickly humanitarianisms. He does all like a man, full of generous impulses and high imaginings, tempered and toned by sound common sense and a practical moral purpose.

DOD'S PEERAGE, BARONETAGE, AND KNIGHTAGE OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, FOR 1854. Whittaker and Co.

The new edition for 1854 of this valuable work sustains its ancient reputation. It contains an account, arranged in alphabetical order, of all the peers, peeresses, bishops, baronets, knights, and Scottish judges. It adds to this a list of the widows of the nobility of all grades—from dukes to knights; of the sons, daughters, &c., of peers, bearing courtesy titles; a brief view of titular distinctions and terms relating to ranks; paragraphs on the formal modes of addressing letters to persons of title; and lists of the members of the various orders of knighthood and the Privy Council. It is, besides, embellished with twenty-four illustrations, including the insignia of the various orders of nobility, introduced by an interesting essay on precedence. Mr. Dod's notices of the several individuals who figure in his work, are so many biographies. The indefatigable author makes a statement of nearly 70,000 facts, and has completed his volume not merely from records in the Herald's College, and other public offices, but from works of the highest authority in public libraries, and, in nearly 3000 cases, from written communications made by the parties themselves. The work has evidently been the object of much labour and research, and it is high praise to say that for correctness in the minutest details, and for the immense quantity of valuable matter compressed into the smallest possible space—there is no similar book which equals it. But "Dod" is a household word—now-a-days. To be accurate as Hansard, is small, if any praise—as Mr. Macaulay can testify; but to be correct as "Dod" is something to be proud of.

FINE ARTS.

CAPTURE OF THE SAN JOSE. By T. J. BARKER.

Mr. Barker, the painter of the large picture entitled "A Lesson of Humanity," illustrative of a striking episode in the career of the great Napoleon, has just completed a work of equal magnitude, embodying one of Nelson's most dauntless achievements, the boarding of the Spanish Admiral's ship, *San Josef*, at the Battle of St. Vincent; or rather his receiving the swords of the vanquished officers on the quarter-deck of that ship, after its surrender, Feb. 14, 1797. The story of this memorable event is one of the brightest in the annals of our great naval hero. He had already taken the *Niolas*, and was preparing to board the *St. Josef*, when a Spanish officer looked over the quarter-deck rail, and said they had surrendered. The rest shall be told in Nelson's own words:—

From this most welcome intelligence it was not long before I was on the quarter-deck, where the Spanish captain, with a bow, presented me his sword, and said the Admiral was dying of his wounds. I asked him, on his honour, if the ship was surrendered; he declared she was; on which I gave him my hand, and desired him to call on his officers and ship's company, and tell them of it; which he did:—*And on the quarter-deck of a Spanish first-rate, extravagant as the story may seem, did I receive the swords of vanquished Spaniards which, as I received, I gave to William Fearney, one of my bargemen, who put them, with the greatest sang froid, under his arm. I was surrounded by Captain Berry, Lieutenant Pierpont of the 69th Regiment, John Sykes, John Thompson, Francis Cooke, all old Agamemmons, and several other brave men, seamen, and soldiers. Thus fell these ships.*

The artist, in his treatment of this subject, has evinced an admirable appreciation of the diverse passions which the event would excite in the bosoms of the various actors—the self-possessed dignity of Nelson, the nonchalant, seamanlike, bluff demeanour of William Fearney, and the bisterous enthusiasm of the other old Agamemmons, contrasting well with the subdued, but gentlemanly bearing of the vanquished Spanish officers, one of whom is suffering severely from a recent wound. In more distant parts of the picture, the still more painful casualties of a hot, though brief engagement are represented with wonderful effect. The figure of the sailor in the agonies of death, over whom a priest holds a crucifix, is, indeed, a striking study. We may add that all the details of rigging, armament, costume, &c., are strictly accurate, and represented with remarkable textural truth; and that the general tone, and especially that dependent upon atmospheric influences, is most satisfactory. This fine picture is on view at Messrs. Leggatts and Co's, Cornhill, who are about to produce a large sized engraving of it, to be executed by C. G. Lewis, in his finest manner.

THE MEETING OF WELLINGTON AND BLUCHER AT WATERLOO. By T. J. BARKER.

This is another work from the same hand, which, though the painting was, we believe, completed some time back, has only been published in the course of the last few months. It favourably illustrates the artist's capability for equestrian subjects; and by the interest attaching to the individuals represented, claims honourable mention from us, as an addition to our long list of "Wellington Portraits and Historical Pictures," which we published shortly after the Great Captain's death. The meeting of the British and Prussian heroes took place at the farm of the Belle Alliance just after the eventful struggle was over. The meeting was sudden and unexpected by both; and it has been described by the few persons who happened to be present at it as most affecting scene; Blucher rushing forward and embracing the Duke; or, as Wellington himself states—"When Blucher met me, he brought up his horse alongside as close as he could, and put his arms round me and kissed my cheek." Mr. Barker has not attempted to realise the more impassioned circumstances of the incident.—probably he was afraid they might be dangerous on cold canvass; but he has, perhaps, once a little too far into the opposite extreme, giving the group somewhat of the formal character of a general officer surrounded by his *des-de-camps*. The upraised hat of Wellington, to some extent, marks the peculiar circumstances of the case; but his figure, as well as that of his horse, is stiff and wooden. Still, in other respects, this picture is a very successful realisation of a most interesting historical event.

ROYAL WINDSOR THEATRICALS.—Sir E. B. Lytton's comedy of "Money" was performed at the Castle on Thursday week; on which occasion four managers of as many theatres sustained principal parts—Mr. Wigan, Captain Dudley Smith; Mr. Kean, Evelyn; Mr. Webster, Graves; and Mr. Buckstone, Stout.

THE MARYLEBONE FREE LIBRARY.—At the meeting of the Marylebone vestry, on Saturday last, Mr. Grote made the following statement with regard to the Marylebone Free Library, which was opened to the public, on Monday, the 9th of January. On Monday there were 92 readers, viz., 91 males, and 1 female, and the number of books used was 92. On Tuesday there were 102 readers, 100 being males, and 2 females, and 100 books used. On Wednesday there were 133 readers of 139 books, 130 being males and 3 females. On Thursday the number of readers reached 173, all males, and the books used were 184. On Friday there were 177 readers, 169 being males and 8 females. There having been in the five days 667 readers; 665 being males, and 14 being females, or an average of 133 daily. He was happy to state also that the class using the rooms to read were the very persons for whom the institution was more immediately intended, namely, the respectable class of mechanics. There was no mistake about the matter, as many came in their paper caps and flannel jackets; and as much quiet and order reigned every evening in the Marylebone Free Library as they would find in the library of the British Museum. It would, no doubt, also be interesting that the public should know the class of works selected for reading by the visitors. They were general literature, poetry, drama, &c., 289; science and art, 40; theology, 17; philosophy, 19; history, 312; and laws, politics, and commerce, 12; being a total of 687 books. He thought this result was most gratifying; and, seeing the advantages which must result from such an institution, he hoped that these statistics would go forth to the public, and that they should have the aid of benevolent individuals desirous of improving the moral and social condition of their fellow-creatures. On Friday evening the number in the rooms reading at one time was 66.

HORSE'S REVENGE.—A farmer, of Requista, near Rodez, was in the habit of cruelly ill-treating his horse. A few days ago the animal, being at liberty, rushed on him, threw him down, trampled on him, and bit him severely. He uttered loud cries, but it was some time before they were heard, and when at length some persons went to his assistance he was quite dead.



OPENING OF THE CANADA GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.—LONDON STATION.

CANADA GREAT WESTERN RAILWAY.

THE opening of the Central Section of the Great Western Railway of Canada, which took place at London, Canada West, on the 15th December, was hailed by the inhabitants with an expression of popular gratification suited to an event which is calculated to exercise an important influence on their town and the adjacent district.

Not many years have elapsed since the site on which the town of London now stands was a wilderness, and it is not more than ten years since it was little more than a village; but in the general impetus which has been given to the progress of Canada within the last few years, London has received its full share; handsome brick buildings are rapidly displacing the wooden shanties of the original settlers; and, by the event just mentioned, the town is put in connection, by railway, not only with the shores of Lake Ontario, but also with the Atlantic.

In England, even previous to the time at which railways were first brought into operation, the travelling was comparatively good; but in Canada, although the road from Hamilton to London, eighty miles distant, is esteemed one of the best in the province, travellers, at certain seasons of the year, must make up their minds to be twenty hours in performing that distance by the stage, besides running the risk of being upset, perhaps more than once, by the way. Under such circumstances it is little to be wondered at that the opening of a railway in that province should be an event of general rejoicing.

After the arrival of the train, the Directors were entertained at a public dinner. The Mayor of the town—who is also a Director—and has taken a very active part in pushing forward the undertaking—presided.

Numerous appropriate toasts were drunk. The health of her Majesty was received with great enthusiasm; but the festivities of the evening were not more remarkable for anything than the very good feeling expressed towards the mother-country by the American gentlemen who were present. General Clarke from the States, in responding to the health of the President, expressed his sentiments to the effect that if any nation should lift a finger against the parent country, her children from this side of the Atlantic, would be seen flying to her relief.

It would not be doing justice to the Great Western Railway, were these remarks on that great work to be limited to the benefits which it is

likely to confer on the London district: the unfinished portion of the line from London to Detroit, opposite Windsor, which will very shortly be completed, will there connect with the Railways through the Western States of America, and in continuation of some one or other of those lines westward, as far as the Pacific—a gigantic undertaking, which many people, now living, may see completed: there is therefore nothing extravagant in assuming as a probability, that at no very distant date, trains from the Atlantic and the Pacific may meet on the railway which has just been opened through the town of London.

The Sketch represents the Train passing the Company's Engine-house and Workshops, and approaching the Passenger Station. The Engine-house, next the square building, partly lighted from the top, on the left of the Sketch, is well arranged, and capable of containing seventeen locomotives.

THE BREAD RIOTS AT EXETER.

IN the Exeter riots of 1847, as well as in those of last week, in the same place—of which we gave an account in our last Publication—the most active portion of the mob seems to have consisted of women, several of whom were of mature years, and the mothers of large families. Had the military not arrived promptly, the amount of damage by the rioters would have been much greater. Fortunately, their violence did not extend much further than destroying the shops of a number of bakers, hurling flint stones through the windows of obnoxious individuals, and smashing everything they could reach.

At the commencement of the riot the police made an attempt to disperse the mob, but it was all in vain. When they were turned away from one place, they made their way through back streets to some other baker's shop at a distance, and instantly began to pillage it. The Mayor, finding that the disturbance was becoming serious, proceeded to the barracks, and obtained the assistance of a troop of the 3rd Light Dragoons, by whom it was speedily put down. The soldiers proceeded to the Guildhall at once, in front of which a portion of them remained to protect the building from any attack, while the rest of them went in pursuit of the rioters, who had gone to Alphington and

Exminster, two villages in the neighbourhood. At the latter place the mob broke into one or two houses, drank a quantity of cider, and were threatening to set fire to the premises, when the military arrived, and took two of them prisoners, and dispersed the crowd.

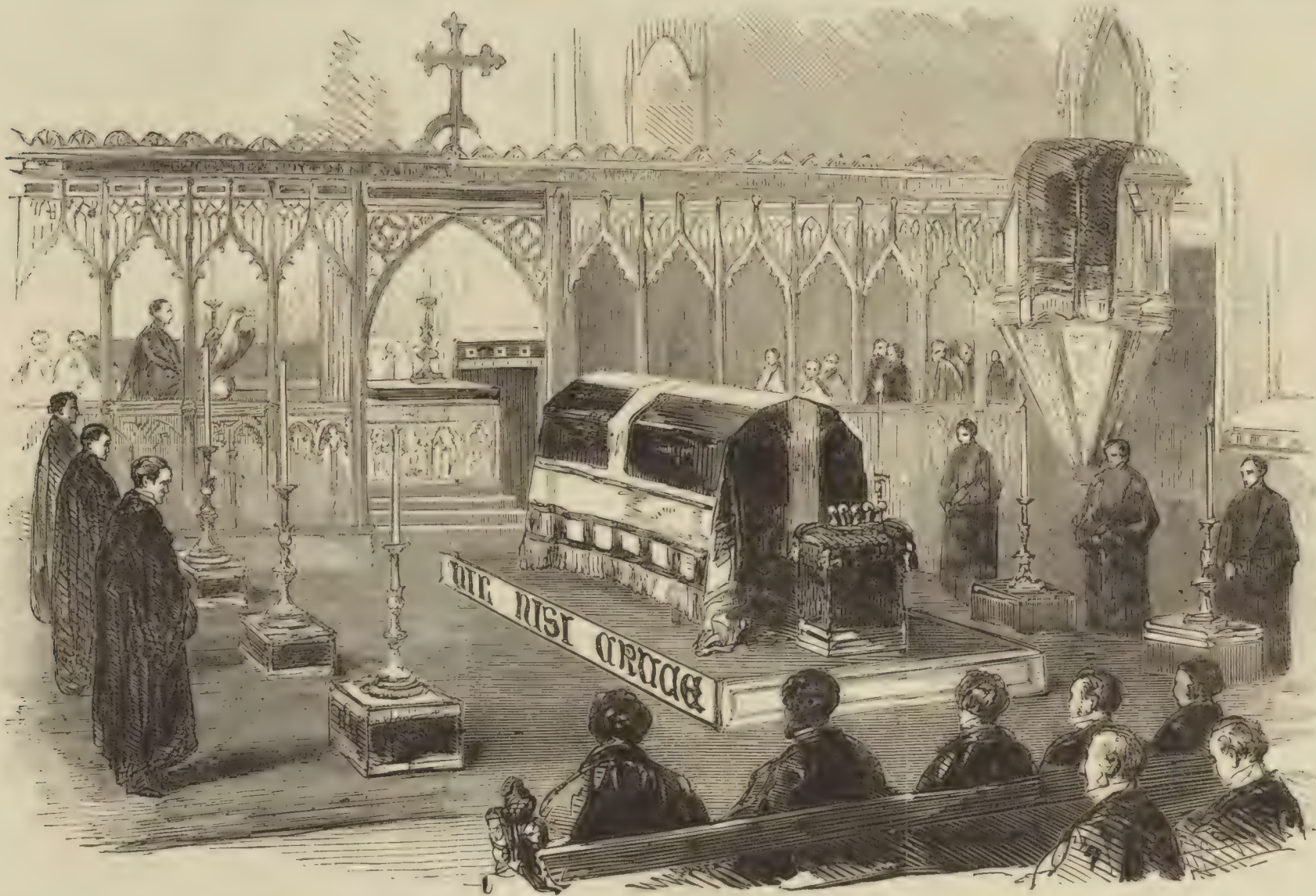
Lord Palmerston has written to the Mayor of Exeter inquiring as to the accuracy of the reports which have been published respecting the riots. His Lordship also requests to be furnished with the particulars of the outbreak, and the result of the investigations which have been going on before the local magistrates. A similar communication has been addressed by his Lordship to Mr. M. B. Bere, a county magistrate, who accompanied the troops from the boundaries of the city into the county, and rendered so much assistance in quelling the outbreak, and in apprehending the rioters. In both instances the noble Lord's request has been promptly complied with. The business at the Exeter Spring Assizes is likely to be more heavy than has been known for years, in consequence of the large number of prisoners who have been committed for trial for being concerned in the later riots. In Exeter and the vicinity alone there have been no less than forty-four convictions; while arrests have been made at Crediton and other towns in the north of Devon. The vigorous manner in which the authorities acted has prevented the repetition of any similar outbreak; and the change in the weather has enabled the men to return to their work.

SPURIOUS GOLD-DUST.—Persons are attempting to dispose of spurious gold-dust, by offering it to money-changers in London. It consists of small pieces of some hard kind of earth electrotyped so as not to be discoverable by chemical tests. A parcel was taken on Tuesday to Messrs. Spielmann, in Lombard-street, which was completely undistinguishable from genuine gold dust, except by its friability and want of weight.

BUYING STEAM-VESSELS.—A report has been prevalent that the French Government have purchased six vessels belonging to the fleet of the General Screw Steam Navigation Company, and three of the Australian Mail Company, but it is incorrect. A purchase of the kind is, however, understood to be in negotiation by the French company, for establishing a Transatlantic line of mail steamers.



"BREAD RIOT" AT EXETER.



FUNERAL OF VISCOUNT BERESFORD, IN KILNDOWN CHURCH.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

CONSECRATION OF ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,
ISLINGTON.

PROBABLY, neither of our metropolitan suburbs exhibits more gratifying evidence of public improvement than the locality, but a few years since, known as "the Caledonian Fields" and "Barnsbury Fields," now the district parish of the Holy Trinity, Islington. Scarcely more than a dozen years since the site was little better than a mere waste, dotted with cottages and huts, as stunted in their proportions as the majority of their inmates were in moral character. The "Fields" were notorious as the scene of brutalising sports, and the habits of the population were generally of that low cast which is common upon the borders of an overgrown city. As if to scare such evil-doers, the Model Prison rose in terrible extent. A more direct clearance, however followed; the cottages and huts were swept away, and houses for the respectable classes were built upon the sites of wretched ruralities. These improvements necessitated provision for the spiritual welfare of the newcomers; and, accordingly, a church has been built here, which was consecrated on Monday last. The new edifice, which is dedicated to St. Andrew, is situated in Thornhill-square, on the east side of the Caledonian-road, and is one of the largest churches lately built in the suburbs. Hard by is the new City Cattle-market, now in course of erection.

NEW CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, THORNHILL-SQUARE
CALEDONIAN-ROAD, ISLINGTON.

The Lord Mayor, Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Wire, with the Under Sheriffs, attended the ceremony in state; the Rev. D. Wilson, Vicar, the Rev. W. Vincent (in whose district the Church is situated, and to whose exertions and those of an active lay committee its erection is mainly due), and a large number of the parochial clergy, being likewise present.

The usual consecration service having been gone through—in which the Bishop of London was assisted by his chaplain, the Rev. T. H. Greene, and Dr. Shepherd, the Registrar—the prayers were read by the

Rev. S. J. Altmann, the Incumbent of the new Church, and an impressive and eloquent sermon was preached by the Bishop, his Lordship taking his text from St. Matthew, ix., 37: "The harvest truly is plentiful, but the labourers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest."

At the close of the consecration service, the Rev. Thomas Huntley Greene, M.A., the Bishop's chaplain, read the Offertory sentences, and a collection was made on behalf of the Building Fund.

The Bishop, the Lord Mayor, the Sheriffs, and a large number of persons, afterwards partook of luncheon at the vicarage.

St. Andrew's Church is cruciform in plan, being that best adapted for a large congregation. It is built of Kentish rag and Bath stone, and is of the middle pointed period of Gothic architecture. It consists of nave and aisles, chancel and aisles, north and south transepts, with a tower and spire at the west end of the south aisle. The large number of persons for whom accommodation was required, rendered galleries necessary; but these, by being confined to the transepts and west end, are so managed as to interfere but little with the church-like character of the interior. The pulpit, of Caen stone, is correctly placed, adjacent to one of the piers of the chancel arch, and sufficiently advanced westward for the purposes of sound; and we are enabled to state, that not a word uttered by the Bishop at the Consecration, either at the altar or pulpit, was lost in any part of the Church, notwithstanding its large size.

The foundation-stone of the building was laid by the Bishop of London, in October, 1852. It accommodates upwards of 1500 persons; and has been executed, at a cost of £6000, by Messrs. Francis B. Newman and John Johnson, architects; Messrs. Dove, of Islington, being the builders.

The Church has been erected by subscription—the Bishop of London,



NEW CAMPANILE, TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.—(SEE NEXT PAGE.)

Lord Robert Grosvenor, M.P., the Rev. Daniel Wilson, the Rev. Wm. Vincent, Sir James Tyler, Mr. W. Dennis, Mr. Cubitt, and the late Mr. Thornhill, M.P., being the principal contributors. Mr. Thornhill also gave the site.

The Bishop of London, in his consecration sermon, on Monday, remarked that police measures, sanitary arrangements, poor laws, and all attempts to better the condition of the labouring classes, important as all these undoubtedly were, would be of no advantage unless immediate measures were taken to extend the influence of the Church. As this was the surest way to reform the population, so in the end it would be found to be the cheapest. He spoke in high terms of praise of the architectural beauty of the Church, and expressed the gratification he felt in consecrating another building in the parish which approximated very closely to the perfection of the parochial system, and which was an example to the diocese at large. His Lordship concluded with an eloquent appeal for a liberal subscription towards paying off a heavy debt of £2,250, which still remained upon the Church.

THE LATE M. VISCONTI.

M. VISCONTI, the architect of the Louvre, who has been so suddenly taken away from the profession in which he had achieved for himself so distinguished a name, was the son of an eminent Italian antiquary. Ennius-Quirinus Visconti, his father, having been obliged to leave Italy by the political events of 1799, took refuge in France, where he found



THE LATE M. VISCONTI.

a new country, and was soon afterwards appointed Conservator of the Antiquities of the Louvre, and Member of the Institute. It was in the midst of that sanctuary, then enriched with the precious spoils carried off from Italy, that the young artist spent his early years. In the extensive knowledge of his father he had every encouragement to devote himself to the study of archæology, the hereditary glory of his family, but his vocation led him to architecture, and in that art he studied under the illustrious M. Percier, of whom he became one of the most distinguished pupils.

While under the tuition of M. Percier, young Visconti received five medals at the School of Architecture, in addition to the Department prize in 1814, and the second prize for the plan of a library. When

twenty-six years old he left l'Ecole des Beaux-Arts, and was employed for some time as an Inspector of Public Buildings. He then became architect-surveyor of the third and eighth arrondissements, the duties of which office he performed for twenty-two years. In 1825 he was appointed architect of the Grande Bibliothèque; and, returning to those studies, which had witnessed his earliest successes, he devoted no less than twenty-nine plans for making that edifice in harmony with its importance. At one time he thought that he should be at last entrusted with the fulfilment of that noble task. That hope, though dispelled then, had been revived of late years, and he had it still at heart as much as ever; because there, at least, in an independent design, he would have been able to inscribe his thoughts, to display his invention and his taste unshackled; whereas, in the completion of the Louvre he was obliged to adopt even the details devised by others. Death has hindered him from seeing the completion of the Louvre, but the plan which he has traced will be followed. All the parts of that vast structure are now above ground, and that portion of it which runs along the Rue de Rivoli, with its façade at right angles, is already completed to its full height. The plan of M. Visconti has the merit of simplicity in a matter which has given birth to many extravagant projects. He has succeeded in correlating the difference of level between the two corridors. In remedying the defect of parallelism between the two palaces, it can hardly be expected that the same success will be attained.

Among the great works with which the name of M. Visconti has been associated, the tomb of Napoleon stands most prominent. The grants advanced to the architect during the performance of this task provoked the attention of those members of the Chamber who are accustomed to maintain the credit of France in discussions on the Budget. As a covering for the coffin Visconti procured from Finland an enormous block of porphyry, of which the French savans could not tell the name. Many persons took pains to show that far finer stone for the purpose could have been obtained in France at much less trouble and expense. But, although hindered by such opposition, the work was accomplished at last.

M. Visconti was also the architect of various funeral monuments to Generals of the Empire. For example:—those of Marshals Lauriston, Saint Cyr, Suchet, Soult, &c. In temporary structures erected for public fêtes, his marvellous fertility of invention was a constant subject of admiration. His faculty of conception and his great activity enabled him to accomplish all those public works, without neglecting those of his numerous patrons. Numerous hotels and palaces were constructed from his plans. Among the various monuments raised by him at Paris, those which attract most attention by their elegance, and which will be preserved as the best proof of his taste, and the versatility of his talents, are the three fountains—Gallion, Molière, and De la Place Louvois. In the fountain in the square of saint Sulpice, the able architect seems to have been less happily inspired, and not to have impressed upon the work that character of majesty and dignity which the monument of Servandoni deserved.

M. Visconti was an officer of the Legion of Honour, President of the *Société des Architectes*, member of the *Conseil des Bâtimens Civils*, and of many foreign learned and artistic societies. At the Institute he belonged to the section of Architecture, which consisted of only eight members, five of whom died in 1853. Visconti was seized, on the 29th of December, with an attack of apoplexy, caused, apparently, by overworking, from which two previous attacks, and the remonstrances of his medical advisers, had been unable to restrain him. His funeral took place on the 3rd inst., at the Church of saint Philippe du Roule, and was attended by a crowd of eminent men, many of whom he had numbered among his friends.

TRINITY COLLEGE, DUBLIN.

THE Campanile, which our Engraving represents, is in course of construction in the spacious quadrangle of Trinity College, Dublin. It is intended for a bell-tower, of which the College stands in great need; for it possesses a very fine bell, but has no suitable structure for its proper suspension. The Archbishop of Armagh, the Primate of all Ireland, and Chancellor of the University, has liberally furnished the funds for the construction of the Tower, the estimated cost of which amounts to £4000—a liberal donation to his alma mater.

The extreme height of the Campanile will be about 95 feet, and the style of the architecture corresponds with the adjoining buildings of the quadrangle. The two most prominent features in the structure are the Corinthian porticoes, which harmonize with the Examination-hall and Chapel; and the four figures which represent Law, Medicine, Science, and Divinity, placed at each angle of the base. The remainder of the tower is truly classical in proportion, in character of ornamentation, and in chasteness of design. The basement is composed of granite, and the superstructure of that fine oolite, the Portland stone. The architect is Mr. C. Lanyon, of Belfast. The four emblematic figures are executed by Mr. Joseph Kirk, a sculptor of Irish origin.

FUNERAL OF LORD BERESFORD.

(Abridged from the Morning Chronicle.)

ON Tuesday the mortal remains of Lord Viscount Beresford were committed to the tomb. One of the most distinguished of the many captains who were trained to arms and glory under the Duke of Wellington, the man in whom he trusted most, and whom he emphatically designated his successor in case of any accident befalling himself—he has not been long in following his chief to the grave.

Lord Beresford sheathed his sword at the close of a war which he had materially contributed to bring to a triumphant close; and after a comparatively short experience of public employment, ultimately retired to the quiet scenes of country life and domestic repose became the foremost in agricultural improvement, and the model landlord of his district—and sought his high pleasures in contributing to the moral and social elevation of the peasantry around him. The appropriate close of such a life was, that his remains should be laid amid the rural scenes which he loved so well, beside the humble villagers in whose welfare he had been so interested.

The church of Kildown, where the remains of Lord Beresford were entombed, is a district church, severed from the old parish of Goudhurst; and was built by subscription in 1840, Lord and Lady Beresford being the principal subscribers. Soon after the erection of the edifice Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope munificently presented to the church a set of windows, in richly-stained glass, made at the Royal factory of Bavaria. The chancel-screen is a beautiful piece, of light Gothic arches; and it, as well as the pulpit—which is designed from an old pulpit in Beaulieu Abbey, by Mr. Carpenter, the architect, to whose designs the church generally is indebted for most of its ornamentation, and who directed the details connected with the funeral.

It had been arranged that the body should lie in state in the boys' school-room, which closely adjoins the church, and which, with another school for girls, was built and endowed by the late Viscountess Beresford. The room was suitably decorated for the occasion, having been hung round with black cloth; the family motto—"Nil nisi cruce"—being repeated round the room, worked in white letters in the mediæval character. In the centre was placed a dais for the reception of the coffin, with a pedestal for the coronet of the deceased; the whole lighted by six large wax candles, which threw a softened light over the whole, and contributed much to the general effect of the solemn scene.

Precisely at eight o'clock the funeral procession left Bedgebury-park, the seat of his Lordship, which is about a mile and a half from the church—two mutes preceding the cortege; then the Bedgebury tenantry, to the number of between twenty and thirty, on horseback; and these were followed by coaches with the servants, after whom came the hearse drawn by six horses. Another coach, containing Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope and Sir John Kirkland—the former chief mourner, and both executors of the will of the deceased. Other two mourning-coaches brought up the procession, which arrived at Kildown about half-past eight; and the coffin was removed from the hearse and conveyed to the dais in the school-room, where Mr. Beresford Hope and Sir John Kirkland took their station as mourners at the head of the coffin, and where they remained during the whole time of the lying in state. The inhabitants of the district were admitted, as were also the servants and the tenantry.

At about half-past twelve the funeral procession to the church was formed. The way was led by two mutes, after which followed the body preceded by the coronet of the deceased, borne on a cushion by James Dod, for many years the confidential valet to Lord Beresford.

The mourners were—Mr. Alex. J. Beresford Hope, chief mourner; Mr. Henry F. Hope, Lord John Beresford, Rev. J. E. Beresford, Capt. D. Packe, Earl Talbot, Lord Dunbar, Lord E. Bruce, Baron de Cetto, Rev. A. Hammond, Right Hon. W. Beresford, Sir John Hamilton, Lord Cranborne, Sir John Kirkland, Mr. Adrian Hope, Mr. Beresford Peirse,

Capt. Packe, Mr. D. Willoughby, Capt. Eden, Sir John Anson, Duke of Montrose, Rev. A. Armstrong, Col. Windham, Mr. Ladbroke, Mr. E. Johnson. Among the invited guests were Count de Lavradio, Count de Villa Real, Sir R. Harvey, Dr. Watson, Lord Hardinge, Lord Downes, Mr. Vanzeller, Sir John Herschel, Mr. Walton Roberts, &c. A large number of clergy were also present.

The procession, thus formed, moved off from the school-house, through the churchyard, to the west door of the church, where the funeral was met by the officiating clergy preceded by the chorister boys. The clergy, in their robes, preceded the body into the church, where, as it was slowly borne up the aisle, the organ played the Dead March in "Saul." The clergy took their seats within the chancel, while the mourners and friends ranged themselves in the body of the church. Meantime the coffin was deposited in front of the chancel screen, about a fourth of the seats in the church having been removed for that purpose; and in their place a dais was erected for the reception of the bier, with a pedestal for the coronet. The entrance to the church, the chancel, and the walls round the dais, were all hung with black, ornamented with white borders, in mediæval characters. Tall standard candles were placed on each side of the bier, and the church was lighted with candles on the altar, coronas of lights over the screen, &c.

When the mourners and invited guests had taken their seats, as many of the inhabitants of the district were admitted as the church could possibly accommodate. Several ladies were also admitted to the organ-loft, at the west end of the church.

The Rev. Mr. Harrison read the Psalms and Lessons set apart for the burial of the dead; after which the procession was again formed, and moved out of the church, the organ pealing forth Mozart's "Dies Irae."

The vault in which the remains of the deceased were deposited is on the south side, and immediately adjoining the church, and is surmounted by a mausoleum of singular beauty, and almost unique in its design—the only one like it being the tomb of the Scaglia family at Verona. It was erected, by Lord Beresford on the death of his lady, a few years ago: it consists of two altar-tombs,—both surmounted by a sort of canopy, borne by light columns of polished granite.

When the body was lowered into the receptacle thus prepared for it, the remaining prayers were read by Mr. Harrison, and the earth was sprinkled on the coffin by John Blunt, a veteran soldier, who fought under Lord Beresford's command at Albuera, and lost a leg on that fiercely-contested field, and who has resided for a long time past at the neighbouring village of Horsmonden. The prayers were then concluded, the mourners took their farewell look, and slowly retired; after which the people took a last look at the remains of him who had so long been moving about familiarly among them.

The guests proceeded to Bedgebury-park, where a luncheon had been provided for them. After refreshments, it was intimated that the will would be read in another room, and that those who felt an interest in the matter might hear it. Many availed themselves of this privilege, and the contents of the will were read over to them by Mr. Walker, his Lordship's solicitor, from which it appeared that the Bedgebury-park estate and the Staffordshire and Derbyshire estates of his Lordship were bequeathed to Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope, who is already named residuary legatee. To Captain Denis Packe (a son, we believe, of Lord Beresford's old companion-in-arms, Sir Denis Packe) is bequeathed the whole of the Carlow estates, on condition that he assume the name and arms of Beresford. His Lordship's orders are bequeathed to the head of the house of Beresford, the Marquis of Waterford. Various large money bequests are made to different friends and relations. Several memoranda attached to the will, show the great interest the deceased lord took in the servants of his establishment. The executors named are his Grace the Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of all Ireland, the Marquis of Waterford, Sir John Kirkland, Mr. A. J. Beresford Hope, and Mr. Drummond, banker.

The details of the funeral were executed by Mr. Banting, of St. James's-street (who had charge also of the funeral of the Duke of Wellington), under the direction of Mr. Carpenter, the architect.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE EARL OF PORTSMOUTH.

BRIEF, indeed, was his Lordship's enjoyment of the family honours. His brother, the third Earl, died only on the 14th of July last.

The nobleman whose death we record as having occurred on the 9th inst., was second son of John, second Earl of Portsmouth, by Urania, his wife, daughter of Coulson Fellows, Esq., of Eggesford, and assumed the surname of Fellows. As Mr. Newton Fellows his Lordship sat for some time in Parliament as Knight of the Shire for Devon. He was born June 26, 1772, and married, first, January 30th, 1795, Frances, fourth daughter of the Rev. Castell Sherard; and secondly, June 21, 1820, Lady Catherine Fortescue, daughter of Hugh, first Earl Fortescue. By the former, who died March 15, 1819, he leaves one surviving daughter, Henrietta-Caroline, wife of Joseph Clitcheater Nagle, Esq., of Calverleigh; and by the latter, three daughters and one son, Isaac Newton, present and fifth Earl of Portsmouth, who was born Jan. 11, 1825.

THE HON. JAMES HOPE-WALLACE, OF FEATHERSTONE CASTLE, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THIS gentleman, the uncle and heir-presumptive of the Earl of Hopetoun, died on the 7th inst. at Featherstone Castle. He was born 7th June, 1807, second son of the fourth Earl, and assumed the additional surname of Wallace on succeeding to the property of the late Lord Wallace, who had married his aunt. By the Lady Mary Frances, his wife, sister of the present Marquis of Westmeath, he leaves three sons and four daughters.

MAJOR-GENERAL TAYLOR, C.B., OF OGWELL, DEVON.

THE death of this gallant officer, Lieutenant-Governor of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and Colonel of the 17th Lancers, occurred on the 8th inst., at Haccombe, Devon, the seat of his son-in-law, Sir Walter P. Carew, Bart. He had attained his 71st year.

General Taylor was actively engaged in the last war, and served at Waterloo. He was elder son of the late Pierce Joseph Taylor, Esq., of Ogwell and Denbury, Devon, by Charlotte, his wife, fifth daughter of the Rev. William Cooke, Dean of Ely, and great grandson of Joseph Taylor, Esq., of Denbury, M.P. for Ashburton, by Rebecca Whitrow, his wife, heiress of the Reynalls of Ogwell, a very distinguished branch of the great Devonshire family of Reynell.

He married, 14th January, 1810, Anne Harvey, daughter of John Petrie, Esq., formerly of Gatton, Surrey; and by her had four sons and five daughters.

LOSSES FROM SHIPWRECK.—The late storms, which committed so much devastation on our own coasts, appear to have extended over a large surface of the globe. Letters from Constantinople mention that out of a fleet of nearly 600 merchant vessels, the majority have sustained more or less injury to both ship and cargo. From Spain, Portugal, and France, the letters report damage; and from the United States and Nova Scotia, the accounts received give the particulars of many casualties. The most recent and severe loss sustained on our own coast, is that of the total destruction of the *John o'Gaunt* clipper, with a valuable cargo of tea from China. She went on shore near Holyhead, and is a total wreck. In order to give some idea of the fearful loss of shipping lately sustained, it may be here observed that there are accounts since the 1st inst. up to last Saturday of no less than 201 English and foreign vessels having been totally wrecked. This return does not include the still greater number of vessels which have been run on shore, or which may have received serious damage, and which entail upon the shipowner a further fearful sacrifice of property.

EPITOME OF NEWS—FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.

The Earl of Derby, as leader of the Protectionist party in the House of Lords, will give a dinner to a large party of his political friends on the 30th instant, preparatory to the meeting of Parliament.

General Prim has arrived in Paris from Marseilles. He intends shortly proceeding to Madrid, to render an account of his mission. He hopes to be able to return to the East in the spring, should political affairs continue of a warlike character.

A Government return has been issued describing the results, so far as they have yet been ascertained, of introducing Chinese immigrants to compete with Coolies and Africans as labourers in Guiana and Trinidad. The experiment is considered successful.

The Barnacre estate, late the property of the Duke of Hamilton, has found a purchaser in Mr. Alderman Thompson, M.P., for the sum of £98,000.

Part of the roof of the Church des Carmes, at Montpellier, fell in on Sunday week, just after evening service was concluded, but fortunately no person was injured.

Upwards of £400 has been received towards a fund for rewarding the four brave fishermen, the crew of the *Emerald Isle* fishing-boat, who so gallantly rescued the survivors of the *Eva* steamer in the Irish Channel, a few days ago.

The herring fishery on the coast of Holland was unusually productive last season. In 1851 it produced 8,100,000 fish; in 1852, 9,569,000; and in 1853, 16,570,000 which is the greatest number that has been ever caught.

A man named Holdman has been committed for trial at Crown, in Cornwall, for killing his wife with a hatchet.

Mr. J. T. Perkins (violinist), aged 18, of New York, has been recently admitted as a pupil at the Conservatoire Impériale, at Paris, over more than thirty "concurrents." This is the first instance of an American violinist being admitted.

The Earl of Durham has become a member of the Newcastle, Shields, and Gateshead Chamber of Commerce.

A convict imagined Australian Gold; Count de Strzelecki and Mr. Clarke ascertained it by examination; Sir R. Murchison deduced it from theory; and Mr. Hargreaves re-discovered it, and gave it publicity and a practical form.

The Durham borough police have adopted the moustache. Abd-el-Kader has turned agriculturist at Broussa, and engaged a number of Arabs from Syria, Tripoli, and Tunis. He has also taken into his service several Polish and Wallachian agricultural labourers.

Mr. Laslett, M.P. for Worcester, has intimated his intention to devote £50 per week to the relief the destitute poor of that city during the severe weather.

The Academy of Fine Arts in Paris decided that the prize of M. Leprince shall this year be awarded to M. Alex. Cabanel, author of a painting representing the "Death of Moses," which was noticed in one of the recent exhibitions.

Sir Robert Peel has consented to deliver in Birmingham and other towns in the Midland district, a lecture on "The Progress of Society, Social and Intellectual," on behalf of the Midland Counties Association of Mechanics' Institutes. The lecture will be first delivered on the 24th inst., in the Birmingham Town-hall.

On the 23rd ult., the roof of the barracks at Malaga, in Spain, fell in, killing and wounding twenty-four persons.

The *Cologne Gazette* states that the negotiations for commercial relations between Belgium and the Zollverein have been broken off.

The admirers of Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton are to entertain him at dinner during his approaching visit at Edinburgh.

The French Government has just ordered the necessary surveys and examination to be made for the construction of a railway from the coalfield of Cramaux to Albi (Larn).

The *Freeman's Journal* states that a "commission has been sitting for some weeks, under order, to prepare a report on the proposed transfer of the heads of the Irish Post-office department to London."

Dr. Sutherland, one of the medical inspectors attached to the Home Office, has been seriously indisposed from the effects of inhaling the gases arising from decaying corpses in a vault visited by him in the discharge of his official duties. Dr. Waller Lewis is also suffering from a similar cause.

A decree has been published at Parma, by which the Grand Duke grants to his Prime Minister, Baron Ward, the privilege of constructing a railway from Piacenza to the Mountain of Penna, partly for locomotives and partly for horses.

The charities of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland have this year been more than ordinarily munificent, on account of the inclemency of the weather. The deserving poor on their extensive estates, have received liberal supplies of clothing and food.

No less than 1,230,000 letters passed through the London district post on Saturday last. This is the largest number ever known, even upon Valentine's day.

The *Correspondance* of Berlin announces that, on the representations of the Prussian Government, the interdiction against the importation of articles of food from the kingdom of Poland, has undergone an exception in favour of wheat.

One of the *troupe* belonging to Isabel's circus was personating the character of the "Flying Indian" at Rotherham; and, while rapidly galloping round the arena, the horse stumbled, and threw its rider with such violence as to dislocate his left knee and elbow.

Letters from Berlin state that the marriage of Prince Frederick Charles of Prussia with the Princess of Anhalt-Dessau is decided on.

The following is the official return of the revenue of the port of Dublin for the past four years—1853, £942,750; 1852, £922,650; 1851, £904,450; 1850, £882,800; showing an annual increase of nearly £20,000.

Notwithstanding the thaw of last week, the ice on the upper part of the Serpentine became strong enough to bear again last Saturday morning, when several gentlemen ventured upon it in the course of the day.

Mr. Murray, the British Minister, has quitted Bern on leave of absence. The Secretary of Legation, Mr. Christie, has returned to take charge of the Legation.

In the tract distribution case, the Queen v. O'Brennan, the Court of Queen's Bench decided that the proceedings in the police-office and the judgment of Mr. O'Callaghan should be returned into that Court.

The annual oration in honour of the memory of John Hunter is to be delivered in the theatre of the Royal College of Surgeons on Tuesday, Feb. 15.

The celebrated China trader *John o'Gaunt* was wrecked on Monday evening, off Holyhead. Her cargo (a most entirely of tea) was valued at about £30,000. The ship and cargo were both fully insured.

The price of corn continues to rise in Paris, and in all the departments of France. The high price of bread, with the stagnation of trade, and the inclement season, creates great suffering among the people; and it is feared disturbances will take place.

There are already, as appears by a Parliamentary document, 38 notices of motions in the order-book of the House of Commons for the ensuing session, commencing on Tuesday week, the 31st inst.

Lord Wrottesley, at his half-yearly rent day, on the 6th inst., liberally returned to his tenantry 10 per cent upon their rental.

Letters from Australia state that Captain Sir Eversard Home, of the *Calliope*, senior officer on the Australian station, was very ill. He had been on an exploring excursion to some unhealthy islands, contrary to advice.

The commercial advices from the United States show that the year has opened with every prospect of an improving money market, and an extension of trade even beyond that which was experienced in 1853.

Mr. John Brady, M.P. for Leitrim, has undertaken to move for leave to introduce a Medical Registration Bill into the House of Commons, at an early period of the approaching session.

The East India Company have forwarded to the Manchester Commercial Association, samples of certain fibrous grasses grown in Assam and other districts of India. One of these samples is the same as the fibre known as China grass, and has been valued at £48 to £50 per ton.

A few nights since, a house, in a village near Boulay (Moselle), fell to the ground, in consequence of the heavy weight of snow on its roof. A man and his two children were got out without injury, but his wife was killed.

The Duchess d'Aumale was confined on Thursday week of a second son, which received the title of Duke de Guise.

While the Town-council of Elgin has unanimously resolved to petition for a Secretary of State for Scotland, the Town-council of Aberdeen has, by a majority of twelve to four, refused to adopt a similar petition.

The elder Didot, the celebrated Parisian printer, has just died at the age of ninety-three.

It is rumoured that 20,000 of the Irish militia are to be enrolled.

A Frenchman has invented a kind of paper made from gutta percha, which is considered to be superior to all other kinds for lithographs and engravings.

Among the lecturers announced for the year at the Manchester Athenæum, are the following members of Parliament:—Lord Stanley, Mr. Napier, Mr. Walter, Mr. Keogh, Lord Goderich, Mr. Isaac Butt, and Mr. Monckton Milnes.

THE THEATRES.

"THE HOPE OF THE FAMILY," AT THE HAYMARKET.

Our Artist has chosen the most pathetic scene in Mr. Sterling Coyne's new drama—that in which Penny (Mrs. Fitzwilliam) undertakes the instruction in elegant accomplishments of the quondam Joe Wudd (Mr. Buckstone), whose omnibus habits had not fitted him to shine in the drawing-room. She has to adjust his neckcloth and to arrange his shirt-front, as well as to regulate his fashionable pose, all which the poor girl performs with a true artist instinct, until she converts her awkward protégé into a true and living "portrait of a gentleman." There he stands, fit to receive company and command attention, the one object of his faithful instructor's admiration. All this is done with exquisite feeling by Mrs. Fitzwilliam, who, by her admirable acting, awakens an answerable sympathy in the audience. One touch of nature like this is worth all the stage-artifice in the world; and the conception of the character does infinite credit to Mr. Sterling Coyne, as well as to its skilful representative. The play will, doubtless, do much to advance the fortunes of the Haymarket Theatre; and it is a gratifying circumstance to reflect upon, that it is not only a "new," but an "original" one. While some other theatres are living by translations of Continental pieces, Mr.

The pieces in general are of so slight a character as to be merely a canvas which these irresistibly comic players embroider with their jokes, expressions, gestures, and looks, which provoke peals of laughter, for which the spectator can render no account, and of which we can give neither description nor imitation. For the lovers of the horrible, the Ambigu Comique (strange misnomer) has the strongest charms. The amount of mimic atrocities committed within those walls; of fearful dangers and perils nightly encountered; of ghosts of murdered wives, mistresses, rightful heirs, and wrongful offspring; with the occasional introduction of ghouls, vampires, and other "things that be not," is enough to give the whole *quartier* a chronic nightmare. The Porte St. Martin possesses, after the Opéra, the best *mise en scène* of any of the Paris theatres, and is consequently in general the one where fairy-pieces, and such as require a brilliant display of decoration, are most successful and effective. It has also a reputation for dramas and melodramas; and was long the scene of the triumphs of one of the greatest actors in Europe, Frederick Lemaître. The Cirque comes next, and is the *locale* (more especially within a couple of years) where all the glories of the *grande armée*, the *régiment* of the Consulate, and the Empire, have been re-told, amid unlimited discharge of fire-arms, prancing of horses, and smothering of smoke, with the occasional diversion of the shrieks of a terrified child. The influence exercised by the representations of some of the Boulevard

sustained by Miss Birch, Mr. Lockey, and Mr. Weiss; and the choristers were selected from the pupils of Mr. Hullah's singing classes. The performance, on the whole, was steady and correct, and the principal choruses—especially "The Heavens are telling," and "Achieved is the glorious work," were grand and impressive. The finest song in the piece, "In native worth," was admirably sung by Mr. Lockey, and loudly encored. The hall was crowded.

A NEW vocal entertainment, called "Songs and Sayings of Samuel Lover," was given at the Musical-hall, in Store-street, on Monday evening. The performer was not Mr. Lover himself, but a young vocalist, Mr. Hime, for whom Mr. Lover wrote the entertainment. It consists of songs and ballads, of which both the poetry and music are Mr. Lover's, set in a frame-work of recitation, in a light, gossamer strain; but very lively and agreeable. The songs, as might be expected from Mr. Lover's well-known talent, are excellent—graceful and elegant verses united to sweet and expressive melodies. Mr. Hime acquitted himself exceedingly well. He has an uncommonly fine voice, and a pleasant style both of speaking and singing. The hall was full, and the entertainment was received with much favour.

HARMONIC UNION, EXETER-HALL.—Mendelssohn's "Elijah" will be performed on Monday next, when Signor Belletti will make his first appearance in London.



SCENE FROM THE NEW DRAMA OF "THE HOPE OF THE FAMILY," AT THE HAYMARKET THEATRE.

Buckstone pursues the more honourable and manly course of encouraging native talent, and fostering the dramatic genius of the country. Why should the English become a mere province of the French stage? Forbid it, Shakespeare! and the long line of poets to Knowles and Talford. Let Mr. Buckstone follow faithfully out the course of management that he has successfully commenced, and he will win for himself an imperishable laurel.

The pantomime at this theatre, founded upon Southey's story of "The Three Bears," deservedly increases in popularity; for it is one of the most pleasing pieces of nursery literature ever placed upon the stage and its humour most delight children of every growth.

PARIS PLAYS AND PLAY-GOERS.

Among the many differences which exist between English and French, between London and Paris life, that which extends itself to all that relates to the theatre is not the least striking. There is no doubt but that its influence and position in the latter capital are infinitely stronger than with us; and this fact, with its causes and effects, we will endeavour to demonstrate without offence to our nation and compatriots, assuring them of our perfect impartiality in judging the matter, and declaring that our sapient observations are founded on an experience of some years, and that we do not take the question in hand in the spirit of the Frenchman who, writing a voluminous work on England, desired to have ten minutes' conversation with Lord Brougham, in order to make himself acquainted with the system of English legislation. The love of amusement, the facility of being amused, the more excitable natures, the greater capabilities of the French as a people to lend themselves to and to comprehend what is addressed to the imagination, are doubtless the primary causes of this fact. The sprightly turn of their wit, with its disposition to ridicule and criticise, their love of *peripetie*, their quickness at repartee, with a peculiar grace and, if we may so use the word, flexibility of language, which lends so much expression to comparatively insignificant phrases, also go for much in the affair; while, materially speaking, the mode of life, earlier hours, and somewhat lower prices, tend not a little to facilitate matters, as far as the audience are concerned.

There are in Paris far more grades of rank and importance in the theatres than in society, and each of the best known has its particular style of literature, acting, and decoration—its *spécialité*, as it is termed.

Here is about the order in which the theatre stand—not as to excellence (for, as we have just stated, nearly each has its peculiar style and order of merit) but as to position and importance:—Opéra, or Académie de Musique, French operas and ballets; Théâtre Française, comedy, tragedy, and drama; Opéra Comique, French operas and operettas; Opéra Italien; Odéon, same as Théâtre Française; Gymnase, comedy and vaudevilles; Théâtre Lyrique, operas and ballets; Vaudeville and Variétés, vaudevilles; Palais Royal, comic light pieces; Porte St. Martin, drama, spectacle; Ambigu Comique, principally drama and melodrama; Galté, drama and vaudeville; Cirque National, or Impérial, military drama; Polies Dramatiques, Délassemens Comiques, Luxembourg, and Beaumarchais, vaudevilles; Théâtre Comte, *féeries*, vaudevilles (principally frequented by children); Funambules, vaudeville and pantomime; Théâtre Lazzari, drama and vaudeville.

In addition to these, there are the spectacles, concerts, Robert Houdin, Fantoccini, &c., and the Cirque Napoléon and the Hippodrome, for feats of horsemanship, gymnastics, &c.

The three Opéras, the Française, and the Gymnase boast, as a whole, decidedly the most aristocratic audience; the others are more mixed; and most of the Boulevard theatres, except on the occasion of any peculiarly attractive piece, are principally attended by the inhabitants of their *quartiers*. To ladies in general we should decidedly say that the Française and the Gymnase were the best calculated to please. Possessing probably the two best *troupes* or companies in Paris, they have a certain *cachet* of distinction—an elegance, a tone of good society, in addition to their actual histrionic merit, that claim the sympathies of a well-bred audience and make them feel at home. Not so the Palais Royal. Here broad farces, coarse jokes, and allusions, *double entendres* of the most transparent order, render the presence of young women generally impossible; but, when these are "left out by special desire"—as in some few pieces they are—the inimitable comic actors of this theatre, Ravel, Grassot, Sainville, Levassor, render it one of the most amusing in Paris.

theatres, especially the dramas of the Ambigu and Porte St. Martin, among the *ouvriers*, who form the chief portion of the inhabitants of those quarters, is remarkable, as showing to what good or evil its effects may tend. We have been assured, by one who has made the study a business, that in the *ateliers* where these men are employed, the pieces at these theatres form the principal theme of their thoughts and conversation; that the plots and characters are dwelt on, studied, and discussed—not as may be imagined, in the light of literary productions—but as real events and real beings.

MUSIC.

The performance of "The Messiah," by the Sacred Harmonic Society, on Friday the 13th, for the last time this season, attracted one of the greatest audiences ever assembled in Exeter-hall. Hundreds of persons, we understand, were unable to obtain tickets. This reception of the most sublime musical work that ever emanated from human genius, by a public to whom it has been rendered familiar by innumerable repetitions, is most honourable to the English people, by whom alone the greatness of Handel has been thoroughly felt and appreciated. The oratorio was performed in the usual manner, both in respect to the principal singers and to the magnitude and strength of the orchestra and chorus. We are much inclined to think that the Sacred Harmonic Society have been gradually enlarging the numbers of their performers, till they have considerably exceeded the proper limit. Beyond a certain point, the accumulation of voices and instruments produces, not power, but weakness. An orchestra of 700 persons is an unwieldy machine, even supposing all its component parts to be unexceptionable; but when (as is known to be the case) many of the chorus-singers and instrumental performers are amateurs, imperfectly educated, and not very amenable to discipline, it is impossible for the ablest conductor in the world—and there is no abler conductor than Mr. Costa—to make such a machine move with steadiness and precision. Much as we are always pleased and impressed, on the whole, by the performances of the Sacred Harmonic Society, we are often (in common with many others) disappointed by the execution of the grandest choral passages. In the most striking fugue points, for instance, when all the singers of a part should strike the note as if they had but one voice and were animated with one soul, we hear them come lagging in, one behind another, as if they durst not hazard a sound till they heard it from their neighbours. And even, when the passages are sung with tolerable precision, there is often a lack of the *chiaro oscuro*, the light and shade of music, produced by the contrast between alternate force and delicacy. It is by such means—not by mere physical loudness of sound—that musical strength is manifest. Fifty well-trained voices will put forth more real power than five hundred good, bad, and indifferent; and, indeed, the assemblage of these monotonous orchestras is one of the *ad captandum* devices of the day; the public being too apt to suppose that what is very big must necessarily be very powerful. We have heard that the society are contemplating some reforms in their choral band, by clearing it of incompetent singers, and insisting on regular attendance at rehearsals. We should be glad if they would, at the same time, diminish their chorus by above a hundred voices. Such a diminution of its number would be a real augmentation of its strength.

MR. AGUILAR, one of our most eminent composers and pianists, has commenced, at his own residence, a series of Chamber Concerts of Classical and modern pianoforte music. The first took place on Saturday evening, when the rooms were crowded by a fashionable and musical assemblage. Mr. Aguilar, with Herr Jansa and Signor Piatini, played a trio for the piano, violin, and violone llo, composed by himself—a masterly work, admirably executed, and warmly applauded. He also showed his powers as a pianist by performing a charming sonata by Clementi, Beethoven's famous sonata, called "Les adieux, l'absence, et le retour," and a selection from Mendelssohn's "Songs without words." Several elegant vocal pieces were sung by Mr. and Mme. Ferrari.

THE CREATION was performed on Wednesday evening, at St. Martin's-hall, under the direction of Mr. John Hullah. This beautiful oratorio was got up in a very satisfactory manner. The solo parts were

TOWN AND TABLE TALK, ON LITERATURE, ART, &c.

A curious and in every respect valuable discovery has just been made among official papers—nothing more nor less than the accounts of Grinling Gibbons for the works executed by himself or his assistants at Windsor, Hampton Court, Kensington, and Whitehall. The accounts are especially valuable, inasmuch as they mention the particular apartments for which the work was, the precise nature of the work, the periods when executed, and the amounts paid. When Walpole gazed over the destruction of official papers, he had no idea of the existence of records of this nature. We shall now (for the accounts are too curious to be longer concealed from the public) be enabled to trace with exactness, as we walk through the stately apartments of Windsor and Hampton Court, the works which Gibbons actually executed, and shall be able to contrast the amounts paid with the present auction value of such works, and the market value of the labours of living carvers in wood.

Who, it is asked, now that Sir Robert Harry Inglis has retired from public life, will succeed to the British Museum duties, which he attended to in the House with so much zeal and assiduity. It will be in the remembrance of our readers that Sir Robert Peel was ever watchful of the votes for the British Museum. Whenever a question about the Museum was asked by Mr. Hume, or others, the reply was invariably made by Sir Robert Peel. When Peel died, Sir Harry Inglis succeeded to this duty. Now that Sir Harry has retired, who will undertake it? The duty—and it is an important one (to become still more important)—must necessarily be entrusted to a trustee, and that trustee a person who takes an active interest in the Museum. If we examine the list of trustees with the list of the House of Commons, we shall find the only available men are Lord Seymour, Sir Philip Egerton, Mr. Macaulay, and Mr. Goulburn. The public would willingly entrust the duty to Mr. Macaulay; but Mr. Macaulay has other public duties, not inaptly described by himself "as the business and pleasure of his life," and it is not fair, therefore, to charge him with any duties that will withdraw him from his History. Of the other three we have our great misgivings. Lord Seymour has taken an interest in the Museum, and was an active member of the recent Committee of Inquiry; but his labours were directed rather to assist Mr. Panizzi than to advance the interests of the Museum. We have little confidence, therefore, in Lord Seymour. Sir Philip Egerton is in no way connected with literature; and Mr. Goulburn will shortly, no doubt, imitate Sir Harry himself, and retire from public life.

In electing a new member, the members of the University of Oxford should endeavour to bear in mind that the successor to Sir Harry Inglis should be a gentleman who can succeed to the many important duties performed by Sir Harry with that strict urbanity of manner, influence of character, and position among the members of the several learned professions, which Sir Harry exhibited and possessed in a very remarkable degree. They should seek to elect some one who can not only (and, in the first place) represent the University itself within its walls properly, but can represent it among literary, scientific, and artistic classes. Of the many candidates named as likely to succeed Sir Harry, no one, it appears to us, seems to possess such singular qualifications for the trust as Lord Mahon. His Lordship is not at present a member of the House, and he is at present a trustee of the British Museum. His literary abilities are undoubted; his business habits were recognised by Sir Robert Peel, in the literary trust he has entailed upon him. His suavity of manner, and other essential qualities for good government, are felt at the Society of Antiquaries, of which he is President; nay, he graduated at Oxford, and Oxford should return him to Parliament.

The bitter and perhaps unhandsome octavo just published against Mr. Disraeli has met with two notices of moment; one in the *Press*, from the pen, it is understood, of Mr. Stafford O'Brien; and one in the *Times* of Tuesday last, from the writer of the "Essays from the *Times*," published by Mr. Murray. The *Press* article discloses some little anecdotes of moment in Mr. Disraeli's life, and is written with skill, though not with vigour. Of vigour, however, there is more than enough in the article in the *Times*. Mr. Disraeli's opponents exclaim, "Here is Junius again: of this article Johnson never could have said that 'it had more of the venom of the shaft than the vigour of the bow.'" Mr. Disraeli's friends declare it, on the other hand, to be all venom. It is, indeed, a masterpiece of invective.

One of the choicest of tiny cabinets of coins in the three kingdoms is about to pass under the hammer of Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson—that of the late Christopher Edmonds, a famous judge of coins, and one who was liberal with his purse when good things were to be procured. Of the nature of the collection some idea may be formed from one lot—a gold Mithridates, for which in 1838, at Mr. Stuart's sale, Mr. Edmonds gave £115!

The only article of literary interest in the new number of the "Edinburgh Review" is that on Thackeray's works. It is by no means a probing article; the writer has read, and in some respects understands Mr. Thackeray's writings, but he does not analyse with a knowledge of human life, so essentially requisite to the due appreciation of an author like Thackeray. Yet the writer has had great experience in disputing novels. This criticism in the "Edinburgh," on Thackeray, is from the pen of Mr. Senior, the writer in "The Quarterly" of many over-rated articles on the "Waverley Novels," as they appeared from time to time.

Literary conversation has taken a retrospective turn, through a discovery first made public by Mr. Bell, in his recent "Life of Dryden," though known to more than one literary antiquary. Mr. Macaulay, in his History, brings a foul charge against Dryden, of selling his conscience for a pension. A serious charge this; but then Dryden was the great satirist of Mr. Macaulay's friends the Whigs. The accusation is founded by Mr. Macaulay on the grant of a pension made to the poet by James II., at the period of his conversion; and Mr. Bell's denial, on the discovery of the grant of the same pension to the poet before his conversion, and by a different Sovereign. The grant of James II. was only a renewal of the grant of Charles II. Mr. Bell founds his denial on an Exchequer document, dated in 1684; to which we may add that we have seen Dryden's own receipt for this very pension, dated June 18, 1680, to the quarter ended the Feast of the Annunciation, 1678-9. "Conscience," says Dryden, in a noble passage, "is the royalty and prerogative of every private man. He is absolute in his own breast, and accountable to no earthly power for that which passes only between God and him."

THE MUSEUM OF ORNAMENTAL ART.



GERMAN TANKARD.

THE Museum of Ornamental Art, at Marlborough House, to which additions are occasionally being made, already comprises a numerous and varied collection of specimens in almost every department of ornamental manufacture—metals, pottery, glass, carving, and woven fabrics, of all periods and countries; which may be studied with advantage as illustrations of the history of various mechanical processes. In the present Sheet we engrave a few subjects which struck us, on a recent visit, as worthy of particular notice.

The *Chinese Bronze Vase*, exhibited by gracious permission of the Queen, forms part of the ornamental furniture of Buckingham Palace. It is noble in form, and an extremely fine specimen of metal-work; the principal device upon it, the favourite dragon of the Chinese, being represented as attached work.

The *German Tankard* is a curious example of the metal-work of the middle ages. The material is a composition of pewter and silver. The tankard stands nearly two feet high, and weighs as much as a strong man can well lift with one hand—full, it would certainly require two. It is supposed to have been one



VENETIAN GLASS.

of the prize "cups" which used to be given by various cities on the Continent, at archery-matches, and other similar trials of skill. The arms engraved upon the shield in front are those of the city of Nuremberg. Round the rim and base are figures playing upon instruments of music, or engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The three subjects in Enamels which we have formed into a group, are curious, as illustrating the European and Oriental practices in this branch of production. The small Vase on the right is of Oriental (perhaps Japanese or Chinese) manufacture;



HER MAJESTY'S BRONZE.

and the only example in the Museum of this kind of enamelling executed in that part of the world; all the others being of the nature of Champeve's enamels. As a specimen of brilliant, and at the same time harmonious colouring, it is well deserving of commendation. The prevailing colours are blue and green, judiciously blended with rich yellow; and the pattern is small, and well intermixed. The large Ewer in the centre, is of Sèvres manufacture—porcelain enamelled upon copper—and is remarkable alike for the beauty of the form and for the artistic excellence of the subjects designed upon it: the prevailing colours are blue, grey, and white. The Vase on the left is also of French manufacture, being a specimen of enamelling in Sèvres porcelain upon common earthenware. This process is an extremely interesting and important one, as producing the most highly-finished results of ornamental art by the aid of base and comparatively economical materials.

The group of Venetian Glass is selected from a case near one of the windows, the contents of which many a virtuoso will gloat over, and, upon technical grounds, are extremely curious. The Venetians were



SEVRES AND ORIENTAL ENAMELS.



ITALIAN CARVED PANEL.



JOHN WESLEY'S TEAPOT.



ITALIAN CARVED PANEL.

long celebrated throughout Europe for their manufactures in this material; and were the first who attempted the fabrication of crystal mirrors, which they produced by blowing, and afterwards flattening; but of course very small affairs they were compared with the enormous sheets now produced, which may be measured by acres instead of feet. But it was chiefly in drinking-glasses, and various ornamental objects for the table that the Venetian glass-blower excelled; and so quaint and original were the forms and devices in which his fancy revelled, that specimens of such objects will always be collected with avidity, and be highly esteemed. In the midst of various-shaped drinking-glasses shown in our Engraving, is a flower-glass, for bulbous plants, very cunningly and ingeniously contrived—the upper part being shaped to support the flower, whilst a second tube descends to the base for the purpose of supplying the roots of the flower with air. Venetian glass was wonderfully light; it was, however, not so clear and transparent as that of modern manufacture, owing to incomplete admixture of the constituent materials.

Amongst other specimens in the fictile art is an extremely rich and well-selected collection of the wares of our own incomparable Wedgwood; and of these, a tea-pot, with a portrait of the Rev. John Wesley on one side, and an acrostic to him on the other, may be pronounced a veritable curiosity. We engrave the portrait side. The acrostic runs as follows:—

AN ACROSTIC.

Humbly Inscribed to the Rev. Mr.

Jehovah reigns—let saints, let men adore;
O be, ye sinners, and proclaim His pow'r!
H of each desponding, t'wist soul draw near,
N or money bring, nor price, nor doubt, nor fear.

W ide as creation—deep as sin's recess,
E xtend the merits of redeeming grace!
S o Wesley speaks—so wondering angels taught,
L ove, peace, good-will to all in Christ are brought.
E nam'ured thousands hear the joyful word,
Y ield to conviction, and confess their Lord.

The portrait, acrostic, and other decorations are printed on the ware by the transferring process.

The two carved Oak Panels are, we think, undoubted specimens of the Renaissance period. The freedom of device, the fine sweep of outline, and the delicate undulations in the relief surfaces, show the hand and the feeling of a perfect artist.

Amongst the more gorgeous productions exhibited is a coffer which was presented by the French President to the Earl Granville, in recognition of his eminent services in the management of the Great Exhibition of 1851. This magnificent article is made of ebony and ormolu, with tablets of Sevres porcelain, richly painted; the subjects being events in the life of Rubens. The largest picture—on the lid, and the full size of it—is a composition of many figures, representing the great artist painting the portrait of his illustrious patroness, Marie de Medicis, as introduced in one of his numerous mythological designs illustrative of her career.

THE CORPORATION COMMISSION.

The Commissioners have been occupied this week in the examination of the various officials of the Corporation. Mr. Serjeant Merewether, Town Clerk, gave some interesting evidence as to the claims of the Corporation to the conservancy and ownership of the Thames—a claim, however, which is contested by the Crown. As regards the police of London, the learned serjeant contended that there is a greater number of police to a given area in the City than any other part of the metropolis; that the amount of valuable property is greater than in any other district, and yet that the cost is no higher, while the protection of property is very satisfactory. There are some parishes in London, where the people still maintain their own watchmen. In the Temple, which is extra-parochial, the benchers have private watchers of their own. The Temple is the only place which does not admit the City police, but when a robbery takes place there, the City police are appealed to.

Mr. Tyrell has held the office of City Remembrancer since 1832, when he succeeded his father in that office. His business is to watch the Parliamentary proceedings affecting the interests of the Corporation in both Houses of Parliament. The emoluments of his predecessors were about £3000; his average only about £1400 per annum. He conducted the opposition to the Smithfield Removal Bill, which cost the City about £5000 for getting up petitions against the bill, for counsellors' fees, witnesses, and other incidental expenses.

The Right Hon. Mr. Stuart Wortley, Recorder of the City of London, gave an account of the duties of his situation, which he has held since 1850. He is the principal legal adviser of the Corporation, he presents addresses to the Crown, attends the Courts of Common Council and Aldermen, advises the Lord Mayor, is a Commissioner under the Central Criminal Court, and, in the absence of her Majesty's Judges, is considered the principal Judge, and has to charge the jury. For these services, and many others, he receives £3000 a year. He entered at some length into the dispute between the City and the Crown regarding the right to the Thames.

Mr. Charles Pearson, City Solicitor, with a net salary of about £1750 a year, advises the Corporation on any question of law, conducts their suits and prosecutions, attends committees, and on all occasions gives them his best advice and assistance. There is no law officer of the Corporation whose duty it is to conduct the whole of its legal business. The advice of the most eminent counsel is always taken before they bring or defend a suit. The Town Clerk and the Recorder are also consulted in such cases, and he, as City Solicitor, considers himself bound to state what the law is, leaving the policy of proceeding in the hands of the Corporation. As regards the dispute with Messrs. Combe, Delafeld, and Company, it ought to be remembered that it began eighteen years ago, when the legal profession was more disposed to encourage litigation than it is now. There is, however, a negotiation now pending with the members of the corn trade to put the metage on a satisfactory footing.—At the close of Mr. Pearson's examination, the inquiry was adjourned till Thursday.

SOLDIERS' FEMALE ORPHANS.

(To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.)

Chatham, 18th Jan., 1854.

Sir,—Having read with much satisfaction, on several occasions, articles in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS warmly advocating the cause of the soldier's wife—and for which I think the married portion of the army must ever feel your debtor—I trust, Sir, an old soldier, who has served his country at home and abroad many years, will not have presumed too far in thus addressing you; and I feel that, in drawing your attention to the circumstance of the recent arrival of H.M. steam-ship *Vulcan*, with no less than 135 soldiers' widows and children (mostly orphans), their parents having fallen victims to the yellow fever in the West Indies, it is unnecessary for me to remark on the foul, pestilential climates in which the British soldier is called upon to serve; nor will I dwell upon the many hours of painful anxiety passed by the soldier parent, who, after many years of toil and travel, finds himself at an early age sinking to the grave from the effects of service in various climates, with the only prospect on his demise of his little family—three-fourths of them, perhaps, females—left totally unprotected; for, destined (as is the case of the majority of the poor children above alluded to) to the care of the cold and, in many cases, heartless keeping of Poor-law guardians, who too often care but little as to their moral culture or industrial education. I hope I am not drawing too largely on your valuable time; but I would remark with surprise that in a country like England, that owes so much of her exalted position to the exertions of her army, that no suitable establishment should exist for the reception of the soldier's female orphan. I feel that I am quite incompetent to place this in the light that I would wish; but, should you, Sir, be further disposed to raise your powerful voice in their behalf, I do think that it is a subject that cannot but find interest with all your lady readers: an institution wherein they would receive good moral teaching, together with suitable industrial training, fitting them for domestic employment; or, should they feel disposed to re-enter the army, at a proper age, as the wives of soldiers, what more fitting instruments, if properly instructed, to improve a rising generation, or to offer, by her rectitude of conduct and religious habits, a good example to those about her, and thus remove the slur too often justly cast upon the soldier's wife? And I feel assured, were such an establishment in existence, it would not lack the support of the army at large.

I am, Sir, &c., C. J. H. S.

A STILL IN A CHURCH.—Considerable sensation has been created in the neighbourhood of Preston, by the discovery of a still in Euxton Church. A few weeks ago some workmen were employed in making some repairs in the church, when they discovered, concealed underneath the pulpit, a perfect still. The minister of the church, whose parsonage is adjoining, was apprised of the circumstances, and the still was removed from the pulpit into the vestry. The fact having become known to the Board of Excise. Mr. Peacock and Mr. Bently, excise officers of inland revenue, obtained a search-warrant from Captain Anderson, of Euxton-hall, and, proceeding to the parsonage first, found a part of the still in the pantry, another portion was found in the coach-house, and, on searching the church, the remainder was found under a heap of other things in a cupboard in the vestry. The still, thus completed, was taken to Chorley, and the particulars of the seizure communicated to the Board of Excise.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

PHAROS.—1. The annual subscription to the St. George's Chess-club is three guineas for town members, and one guinea for country members. 2. There is no entrance fee or other expense of any description.

COURTESY.—Judging from the list sent us we should say that the St. George's Chess-club, with the advantages of its present situation, will this year number more members than any chess society ever established.

R. V.—The splendid saloon formerly belonging to Crockford's Club-house, which is to open as a grand Chess and Smoking Divan, will be ready for the public, we are told, by the opening of Parliament. For further particulars you should apply to the superintendent of the establishment, Mr. Thyer, on the premises.

KAPPA.—A Pawn, at his first move, may be played two steps; but, if the adversary (having a Pawn of his that can take it) choose, he may take it in passing. See the "Chess-Player's Handbook," or any rudimentary treatise on the game.

H. G.—Our solution of Problem No. 412 is perfectly correct; and, as we remarked last week, at the very point where you say White cannot mate all (after his 5th move), checkmate can be given in one more move. We repeat the solution, although we grudge this space—

1. K to Kt 5th 2. Kt to Q 5th 3. R to R 2nd. Black has now three moves. If he K to Q 3rd 4. K to Kt 4th 5. K to Kt 5th 6. K to Kt 6th 7. K to Kt 7th 8. K to Kt 8th 9. K to Kt 9th 10. K to Kt 10th 11. K to Kt 11th 12. K to Kt 12th 13. K to Kt 13th 14. K to Kt 14th 15. K to Kt 15th 16. K to Kt 16th 17. K to Kt 17th 18. K to Kt 18th 19. K to Kt 19th 20. K to Kt 20th 21. K to Kt 21st 22. K to Kt 22nd 23. K to Kt 23rd 24. K to Kt 24th 25. K to Kt 25th 26. K to Kt 26th 27. K to Kt 27th 28. K to Kt 28th 29. K to Kt 29th 30. K to Kt 30th 31. K to Kt 31st 32. K to Kt 32nd 33. K to Kt 33rd 34. K to Kt 34th 35. K to Kt 35th 36. K to Kt 36th 37. K to Kt 37th 38. K to Kt 38th 39. K to Kt 39th 40. K to Kt 40th 41. K to Kt 41st 42. K to Kt 42nd 43. K to Kt 43rd 44. K to Kt 44th 45. K to Kt 45th 46. K to Kt 46th 47. K to Kt 47th 48. K to Kt 48th 49. K to Kt 49th 50. K to Kt 50th 51. K to Kt 51st 52. K to Kt 52nd 53. K to Kt 53rd 54. K to Kt 54th 55. K to Kt 55th 56. K to Kt 56th 57. K to Kt 57th 58. 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CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK.

SUNDAY, Jan. 22.—3rd Sunday after Epiphany. Lord Byron born, 1788.
MONDAY, 23.—William Pitt died, 1806. Duke of Kent died, 1820.
TUESDAY, 24.—Frederick the Great born, 1712.
WEDNESDAY, 25.—Conversion of St. Paul. Robert Burns born, 1759.
THURSDAY, 26.—Brazil discovered, 1496. Jenner died, 1823.
FRIDAY, 27.—Mozart born, 1756. Duke of Sussex born, 1773.
SATURDAY, 28.—Admiral Byng shot, 1757.

HIGH WATER AT LONDON-BRIDGE, FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 28.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m 7 10	h m 7 40	h m 8 5	h m 9 35	h m 10 15	h m 11 5	h m 11 45
h m 7 10	h m 7 40	h m 8 5	h m 9 35	h m 10 15	h m 11 5	h m 11 45

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT, AND THE

WAR BETWEEN TURKEY AND RUSSIA.

On SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, will be published, a Splendid
DOUBLE NUMBER

OF THE

ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS,

Containing Engravings of Scenes and Incidents in the War, received
from Artists expressly despatched by this Journal, with Full and Accu-
rate Description of the various Encounters of the Two Armies. Also
Reports of the Debates in the Houses of Parliament; the Queen's
Speech, &c.; with a

LARGE PRINT

OF THE

INTERIOR OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS;

representing the Ministerial and Treasury Benches, with Portraits of
all the principal Members. This Engraving is expected to be the finest
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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 1854.

For the last four months it has been a matter of intense anxiety
in every civilised country in our hemisphere, to know whether the
war between Turkey and Russia were to become a general one, or
to be put an end to. The best efforts of the foremost statesmen
of four great nations have been steadily directed during that
period to preserve the inestimable blessings of peace, and to extin-
guish the local conflagration that has unfortunately broken out.
Diplomacy has been slow in its operations; but it has at last
brought the various questions at issue to a point on which the
Emperor of Russia must declare himself. He can no longer delay
his decision. Peace or war remains in his hands. Further pro-
crastination will neither serve his purposes nor those of Europe.
Two intelligible issues are before him, upon either of which his
declaration will be conclusive. The British and French
fleets are in full possession of the Euxine, and their Ad-
mirals have notified in courteous, but imperative, terms to
the Governor of the Russian naval station in the Crimea,
that their object is to protect the Turkish territory from Russian
aggression; and that, if Russia would avoid a collision, she must
keep her fleet within the harbour of Sebastopol. The world will
speedily be informed whether the Emperor has chosen to interpret
this proceeding as an act of war. The Emperor has also received
an official note declaratory of the terms which Turkey is willing
to accord as the basis of a pacification. This important document
has received the adhesion and the signature of the representatives
of Great Britain, France, Austria, and Prussia. To this note the
Emperor must give an immediate reply, or incur the penalties of
a state of hostility. That reply is doubtless on its way to Western
Europe at this moment. It is commonly believed that it will be
warlike. The reason for this belief rests upon the fact that,
throughout these unhappy transactions, the Emperor has never lis-
tened to reason and common sense; that he has played the part of a
man rendered insane by the long possession of arbitrary power;
by the fulsome, if not blasphemous, flattery of every person
around him; by the prompting of a wild ambition, and by the un-
controllable lust of dominion. Were he a sane man, swayed by
the ordinary motives that actuate the rest of mankind, he would
long ago have paused. He would have weighed his chances of
success; and, finding all Europe against him, he would have
withdrawn, while he could do so with safety, and with the least
possible loss of character and credit. Even if he had been igno-
rant of the temper and resolution of the four great kingdoms and
empires whose sense of justice and whose interests forbid them
to tolerate his projects of aggrandisement, he might have found,
in the unexpected strength and resources displayed by Turkey,
a sufficient reason for desiring peace, rather than war. That none of
these considerations has hitherto acted upon his mind is quite suf-
ficient to justify the belief so commonly entertained in all civilised
countries that his pride and passion are stronger than his reason, and
that the only means of dealing with him are the means which we
employ towards the lunatic and the savage. Coercion by the
strong arm—which is the course he adopted towards Turkey—is
the course which in all probability Europe will have to employ
against a potentate so unreasonable. If he should at the last
moment awake to the conviction that the task upon which he has
entered is too mighty for his powers, and that the result of his
efforts to domineer over Europe may be the loss of the Crimea
and all the Mahometan provinces of his empire, and per-
haps the loss not only of his throne but of his life, it will be
well that prudence has retained such wholesome mastery

over him. But we must confess that we know nothing in the Em-
peror's history or character which can greatly justify such hope.
Like other tyrants, he is a greater slave than any man in his do-
minions. He is the slave of those evil passions which tyranny in-
variably fosters in the hearts of tyrants. He is the slave, also, of
the traditional policy of his family. He is the slave of Peter the
Great and the Empress Catherine, and in his wildest pretensions
acts upon a cunningly-contrived and pertinacious system derived
from those Sovereigns. It is for Europe to show him that his
system, and that of his predecessors, is a public nuisance; and to
take the proper measures—after he shall have been de-
feated in the coming struggle, as he assuredly will be—to
prevent any further outbreaks, either on his own part or that of
his successors. We do not fear that the struggle will be a
long one. If we must strike, let us strike heavily and effec-
tually. In mercy even to the Czar, the war must not be pro-
tracted, if skill, energy, and determination to succeed can by
any possibility make it short and decisive. War at this moment
is distasteful to every one of the Allies. Each has its own
reasons for desiring peace. There is no knowing to what
mischief, if not dismemberments, a war might subject the
German Powers; and Great Britain and France have suffered so
much by previous wars, and have so many material interests to
develop and strengthen, that they cannot but consider war as the
greatest calamity that can befall them next to the loss of their
national honour. It is because their national honour would be
sacrificed if the Emperor of Russia were allowed to succeed in
his projects, that the people of these great countries are ready
to accept war, and to fight it out to the utmost.

THE largest state in the Old World is very likely to be foiled in
its efforts to "annex" to itself the coveted territory of its neigh-
bour. The largest state in the New World, which has always
some project of annexation on hand, is likely to be successful
in a similar design. The Governor and people of the United
States seem as if they were determined never to rest until they
have annexed the whole of Mexico. Texas is annexed, though
not amalgamated, and Upper and Lower California have one
after the other shared the same fate, if it be not more
proper to call it the same honour. But these annexa-
tions, mighty as they are, do not satisfy the am-
bitious spirit of the Americans. The whole of the North
American continent is considered by many of the most stirring
spirits of the Union, as the eventual patrimony of the Anglo-
Saxon race. To expel the people of Spanish blood from all ter-
ritories between Panama and the wilds where the trappers of the Hud-
son's Bay Company hold a divided dominion with the Red Indians
and the furry animals of the forest, is the "mission" which they
openly advocate. Sooner or later it is likely that they will succeed
to the extent of "annexing" Mexico. Bit by bit they will accomplish
their end—or Brother Jonathan is not acute in business, or greedy of
a bargain. The United States have so large a surplus of revenue
over expenditure, that the Government does not know what to
do with its money. In this *embarras de richesses*, it has bethought
itself, and not for the first time, of purchasing dominions,
which it would be unwise at present to attempt to subdue. The
latest intelligence from Washington asserts that a bargain has
been made with General Santa Anna for the cession of a large
tract of country, by which the United States will acquire "the
whole of Lower California and Sonora, and a practical
route to the Pacific," for the sum of 50,000,000 dollars.
Santa Anna is described by some authorities as having
declared that he would rather "sacrifice fifty thousand lives—his
own included," than agree to any such proposal; but those who
know his character, and the urgent necessities of the Mexican
Treasury, do not believe in this patriotic fervor. But this is not
the only project of annexation that is ripening. What is called
the Clayton-Bulwer treaty has been formally brought before
Congress at Washington, and earnest debates have already
ensued upon it. By this treaty it is pretended that Great
Britain consented to abandon her rights and claims over the
colony of Honduras, and all other portions of Central
America. The United States are anxious to obtain exclu-
sive possession of these territories, that they may thereby exercise
exclusive control over the ship canal, or railway, that is to be
made through them to connect the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans.
The British Government, as we learn from the despatches of
Lord Clarendon, and Sir J. D. Harding, the Queen's Advocate-
General, resist this interpretation—especially as far as Honduras
and Belize are concerned, and as regards the Protectorate which
Great Britain exercises over the kingdom of Mosquitia. We do not
expect, however, that the difference of opinion which has arisen
will lead to any great difficulties. The rights of this country over
her colonies are not likely to be assailed by the Government of
the United States; and there is no reason why one of the grandest
and most useful enterprises ever conceived—the junction of the
Atlantic and the Pacific—should not be supported by every
civilised state for the common advantage of the civilised world.
As in the case of Mexico, the acute Yankees do not wish to trust
entirely either to force or to diplomacy for the accomplishment of
their views. The all-potent dollar is the weapon on which they most
rely; and they have already purchased from the King of Mosquitia
a tract of country covering several millions of acres, to which they have
given the name of Nebraska, and which is to be forthwith colo-
nised by the "Anglo-Saxon." Then there is the kindred project
for the annexation of Cuba—a project that never will be dropped
while Spain is a weak and the United States a strong Government.
We do not envy our brother Jonathan his prosperity; but we
think he might with advantage show himself a little less grasping.
There is danger in being too rich and too mighty; and the pos-
session of an unsatisfied and insatiable spirit leads both men and
nations into danger.

SIR STEPHEN LAKEMAN.—THE TURKISH WAR.

WE are glad to learn that Sir Stephen Lakeman, late the gallant
commander of the Waterkloof Rangers, whose valuable public services
were lately so highly approved of by the British Government, has
left England for Constantinople, having accepted an important com-
mand of troops in Asia Minor. We have no doubt that the gallant
officer will not only sustain, but augment, the high military reputation

which he earned at the Cape of Good Hope. Owing to Sir Stephen's
recommendations, a portion of the troops under his command will be
armed with Dean and Adams's five-barrel revolving rifles. These de-
structive weapons, combined with Sir Stephen's system of warfare, as
practised by him so advantageously in the late Kaffir struggle, will, no
doubt, render his corps formidable adversaries to the Don Cossacks,
or any other enemies of the Sultan, that may arise in that quarter. We
look forward with much interest to the results that this gallant officer
may produce in aid of the just cause in which he has so nobly volun-
teered his services.

It may not be uninteresting, in connection with this subject, to state
that Messrs. Dean and Adams have been instructed to despatch a
special agent to Constantinople to make arrangements for a general use
of these formidable arms in the Turkish army.

WINE DUTIES.—We are informed that a public meeting, to
consider the subject, is to be held on a very early day after the meeting
of Parliament, and that the Right Hon. the Lord Mayor has consented
to preside. The committee that has been formed to support Mr.
Oliveira's motion for a reduced duty amount to more than 700 persons
of different professions and commercial eminence, amongst them, about
100 members of Parliament; and we understand that, at the public
meeting in question, the various questions of revenue, reciprocity, and
moral considerations, will be carefully discussed.

THE COURT.

The favourable change in the weather has enabled her Majesty
and the Prince Consort to enjoy their usual out-door exercise during the
past week. The Queen has walked in the grounds adjoining the Castle
almost daily, and his Royal Highness Prince Albert has generally gone
out shooting.

The Royal children drove to Stoke-park, the seat of the Right
Hon. H. Labouchere, on Saturday afternoon, and in the evening of the
same day the Rev. Dr. Philpott, of Catherine-hall, Cambridge, arrived
at the Castle on a visit.

The Queen and Prince, the Prince of Wales, the Princess Royal,
Princess Alice, and the Duchess of Kent, the ladies and gentlemen of the
Court, and the domestic household, attended Divine service on Sunday
morning, in the private chapel of the Castle. Viscount Jocelyn was also
at the service. The Hon. and Rev. G. Wellesley read the prayers, and
the Rev. Dr. Philpott preached the sermon.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent dined with her
Majesty on Monday. Col. the Hon. C. B. Phipps, and Capt. the Hon.
Dudley and Lady Elizabeth Fitzgerald De Ros, had the honour of joining
the Royal party.

On Wednesday, the following distinguished personages arrived
at the Castle, on a visit:—The French Ambassador and the Countess
Walewski, the Duke of Newcastle, the Marquis and Marchioness of West-
minster and Lady Agnes Grosvenor, the Earl and Countess of Shaftes-
bury, the Earl and Countess Delawarr and Lady Arabella Sackville
West, Viscount Canning, Lord Ernest Bruce, the Right Hon. Sidney and
Mrs. Herbert, the Right Hon. Spencer and Mrs. Walpole, and Major-
General Wetherall.

Her Majesty intends keeping her wedding-day (Feb. 10) at
Windsor Castle; and in a few days afterwards the Court will leave for
Buckingham Palace.

Viscountess Canning has succeeded Viscountess Jocelyn as
Lady in Waiting to her Majesty; and Lieut.-General Sir F. Stovin,
Major-General Berkeley Drummond as Groom in Waiting. Colonel
Wylde has succeeded Lord George Lennox in attendance on the Prince.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Kent, attended by Lady
Fanny Howard and Sir George Couper, arrived at her residence, Clarence
House, St. James's, on Wednesday morning, from Frogmore. In the
afternoon her Royal Highness visited the Duchess of Gloucester, at Glou-
cester House, Piccadilly, and afterwards returned to Frogmore.

We regret to announce the severe indisposition of the Marquis
of Londonderry. His Lordship, who has been surrounded by a family
party at Wynyard since Christmas, has been suffering for some days from
neuralgia, in a very bad form.

The Earl and Countess of Lanesborough are entertaining a dis-
tinguished party at Swinstead Hall, Leicestershire. The Marquis of
Granby and Lord Sandys are amongst the recent arrivals.

The Countess Brownlow and the Ladies Cust are passing the
season at Torquay.

Lord John Russell has arrived in town from Pembroke-lodge,
Richmond-park, with Lady John Russell and family, for the season.
The noble Lord has issued cards for a grand Parliamentary banquet on
the 30th of this month.

The Speaker and Mrs. Shaw Lefevre and family will arrive in
town on the 27th inst., from Heckfield-place, Hants.

His Excellency the Ambassador of France and the Countess
Walewski left the residence of the French Embassy, in Grosvenor-
square, on Wednesday, on a visit to her Majesty, at Windsor Castle.

The Marchioness of Westminster and Lady Agnes Grosvenor
arrived at Windsor Castle on Wednesday, from Motcombe House, Dorset,
on a visit to her Majesty. The Marquis of Westminster met her Ladyship
at Windsor, from London, and remains on a visit at the Castle.

CHURCH, UNIVERSITIES, &c.

PREFERRMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—*Rural Dean*: The Rev.
A. Bayley to Peterborough. *Rectories*: The Rev. H. A. Barrett to Ched-
grave, Norfolk; Rev. B. G. Bridges to Blankney, near Sleaford; Rev. E.
Goldham to Caldecote, Hertfordshire; Rev. G. Harrison to Sutcombe,
Devonshire; Rev. J. B. Sparrow to Oulton, with Little Bruett annexed;
Rev. S. Newall to Clifton-upon-Dunsmore, Warwickshire; Rev. J. L.
Prior to Papplewick, Nottingham; Rev. J. Rutherford to Egean, near
Pretworth; Rev. G. M. Sykes to East Hartley, near Caxton; Rev. S.
Gamlen to Grafton Underwood, Northampton. *Vicarages*: The Rev.
H. Nicholson to Weston-cum-Sutton, Northampton; Rev. S. Cooke to
Paston, Norfolk; Rev. J. Gratrix to Kensworth, Hertfordshire; Rev. D. T.
Hobson to Beckingham, near Gainsborough; Rev. S. B. Maughan to
Widdington, near Morpeth. *Incumbencies*: The Rev. W. Hooper to Ma-
riansleigh, near Southampton; Rev. W. L. Morgan to Bradshaw, York-
shire; Rev. R. S. Philpott to Christchurch, Epsom; Rev. W. E. Richard-
son to Linslade, near Leighton Buzzard; Rev. W. Morton to Penkhill,
near Newcastle-under-Lyne; Rev. J. Harvey to Trent Vale, Stoke-upon-
Trent; Rev. C. J. Penny to Hunningham, Warwickshire; Rev. J. Mitchell
to St. Paul's Church, Newington; Rev. R. Allen to St. James's Church,
Halifax; Rev. J. Anderson to Lea Marston, Warwickshire; Rev. W.
Wilkinson to St. Mary's Church, Sheffield; Rev. J. Aldous to Wicker;
Rev. J. Miller to Ocop, Herefordshire; Rev. W. Cumby to Beadnell,
Northumberland; Rev. E. Mercer to Ecclesfield; Rev. R. Jones to Pen-
maen; Rev. T. Smith to Ossington, near Newark; Rev. J. Valpy
to St. John the Baptist, Leenside, Nottingham; Rev. P. Somerville to
Milton, near Lymington; Rev. J. Dennett to Aldershot, near Farnham;
Rev. F. B. Gourrier to Christchurch, Clapham; Rev. D. Aston to St.
Silas, Loxells, near Birmingham; Rev. J. N. Vileland to Christchurch,
Turnham-green. *Perpetual Curacy*: The Rev. J. W. Springett to Christ-
church, Dunkirk Ville.

TESTIMONIAL.—The Rev. T. Owen, by members of his congre-
gations at Rathby, Newton, Linford, and Groby: Rev. H. Thompson, by the
parishioners of Wington, on his quitting the curacy of that parish, after
a residence of a quarter of a century.

NEW CHURCH ON THE ISLE OF WIGHT.—Mr. Cubitt has built,
at his own expense, a spacious church on the south-east extremity of
the island. A clock and a peal of five bells in the tower is to be added, as
likewise an organ; and the church, with an acre of ground, will be vested
in the Church Building Commissioners—the patronage being (with the
consent of Brasenose College, Oxford, the patrons of the parish and
with the sanction of the Rector) placed in the hands of the diocesan.

HER MAJESTY AND H.R.H. PRINCE ALBERT have contributed
£100 to the fund for the relief of the suffering poor at Windsor and the
adjoining parish of Clewer, in consequence of the unusual severity of the
season, and the high price of provisions and fuel. H.R.H. the Duchess
of Kent has also contributed to the fund the sum of £10.

STATUE OF THE SCOTTISH HERO.—The statue of Sir William
Wallace, one of the earliest works of Mr. Handyside Ritchie, and
modelled immediately after his return from Rome, where he studied for
three years under Thorwaldsen, has been purchased by Mr. Alexander
Denny, Dumbarton, for the purpose of being erected in that town, so in-
timately connected with the history of the Scottish hero, and in the
castle of which the far-famed "Wallace Sword" is still preserved.

POSTSCRIPT.

FRANCE.

Two private despatches from Vienna and Berlin to Paris, on Wednesday, announce that the Emperor of Russia has positively rejected the propositions as drawn up by the Vienna Conference; and if these be not accepted, there is much less chance of any modification that may have been made in them at Constantinople being found agreeable, and less still of the last communication as explained in the circular despatch of M. Drouyn de Lhuys. In addition to the despatches from Vienna and Berlin, a third, proceeding from Amsterdam, announces that a panic prevailed on Tuesday at that Bourse, in consequence of the receipt of the same unfavourable intelligence. It is now said in Paris that, in case of the rejection of the propositions being confirmed, the Russians will collect their utmost force and attempt the passage of the Danube, invade Bulgaria, and thus counterbalance the entry of the combined fleets into the Black Sea. In a word, the prospects are gloomy in the extreme.

The speculators at the Bourse were much depressed by the news. The Three per Cents opened at 71f. 50c., fell to 70f. 85c., and closed at 71f. for the end of the month; the Four-and-a-Half per Cents closed at 99f.

SWITZERLAND.

The Executive Government of Switzerland, in consideration of the probable complications of the Eastern question, proposes to station a body of troops on the German frontier, and is about to demand a grant from the Federal Assembly with this object.

RUSSIA.

Advices from St. Petersburg of the 12th inst., state that M. de Reizet had arrived with the French categorical note. It was presented simultaneously with the English note of the same character, which Sir Hamilton Seymour had received some days previously. The Council of Ministers was in deliberation on these notes, but had not determined on their answer. There seemed little doubt that the entry of the fleets into the Black Sea would be regarded as a hostile act by the Emperor of Russia, and the state of public feeling manifested great irritation against France and England.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

PORTSMOUTH.—About 150 workmen are daily employed on the *Marlborough*, 131, new screw three-decker, and are making great progress. The keel of the *Shannon*, screw, 60, is nearly completed; but, from her extraordinary length (25 feet longer than the *Princess Royal*, 91), some alteration will be required in the slip and shed to enable the work to proceed. The new 80-gun sailing-ship *Colossus* is brought down, and placed in the fitting-basin, ready for docking. She is to be cut and lengthened amidships, to adapt her for the screw. The *Leopard*, 12, paddle-frigate, Capt. George Gifford, and the *Frolic*, 12, are at Spithead. The ships preparing, are the *Princess Royal*, 91; *Danubius*, 24, screw-frigate, Captain Ryder; *Blenheim*, 69; *Basilisk*, 6, paddle-sloop, Commander the Hon. F. Egerton; and *Simoom*, 18, troop-ship, Captain Smith.

CHATHAM.—The *Euryalus*, 50, screw steam-frigate, Captain Ramsay, had her steam up on Tuesday, and worked her engines, of 400-horse power, for two hours, at her moorings. On Wednesday she left Chatham, for the purpose of being tried at the measured distance between the Nore and Mouse lights, and her speed was ascertained to exceed ten knots per hour, the engines working most admirably.

SHEERNESS.—The *Junco*, 26 guns, Captain Stephen G. Freemantle, has arrived here from Chatham, for the purpose of taking in her powder, shell, &c. The *Cressy*, 80 guns, screw steam-ship, Captain Warren, is progressing smartly with her fittings. Her heavy pivot-guns and her entire armament is now in progress of being put on board, with shot, &c.

LAUNCH OF TWO SCREW-SHIPS OF THE LINE.—There will be launched this month the *Algiers*, 91 guns, at Devonport Dockyard, on the 26th inst.; the *Hannibal*, 91 guns, at Deptford Dockyard, on the 31st inst. These ships are each to have engines of 400-horse power. Their armaments will be—1 pivot gun, 68-pounder, 95 cwt., 10 feet long; 28 eight-inch guns, 65 cwt., 9 feet long; 38 32-pounders, 56 cwt., 9 feet 6 inches long; 24 thirty-two's, 42 cwt., 8 feet long.

THE SCREW-SHIPS AFLOAT.—The *James Watt*, 91, at Devonport, will have her steam up by the latter end of the month; and the *Nile*, 91, in course of commission at Devonport, will be ready to try her engines by the middle of March.

THE WESTERN SQUADRON.—Rear-Admiral Corry, in the *Prince Regent*, 90, Captain Hutton, was at Lisbon on the 9th, with the following force:—*Duke of Wellington*, 130, screw; *Imperieuse*, 51, screw; *Arrogant*, 47, screw; *Tribune*, 31, screw; *Desperate*, 8, screw; *Odin*, 16, paddle; *Valorous*, 16, paddle; and *Cruiser*, 16, screw. The *St. Jean d'Acre*, 101, screw, Captain Hon. H. Keppel, was on a cruise to Vigo.

PORTSMOUTH.—The engineer department of this arsenal is engaged in deepening the moats of the fortifications of Gosport, on which side this harbour it is proposed to erect a new barracks for 1000 infantry, with the necessary complement of officers. The site pointed out for this additional garrison for Gosport is near the double gateway within the lines.

SIR CHARLES NAPIER had an interview with the Earl of Aberdeen on Wednesday, at his official residence in Downing-street.

MAJOR-GEN. SIR H. PLYNN transacted business the same day at the Foreign-office, on the subject of the long-standing claims of the British officers that served in the Portuguese army during the Peninsular war.

THE Victualling Department has issued circulars applying for tenders for the supply of 3000 tierces of beef and 3000 tierces of pork, to be delivered within the 31st of May next.

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The Government of New Zealand, after setting an example of liberality in their new land system to the neighbouring colonies, have gone a step further in advance, by judicious measures of colonization. The territorial revenues are in future to be apportioned and applied to objects directly and permanently conducive to the prosperity of the island. All the proceeds of the sale and leases of the public lands (with the exception, in certain districts, of one portion being set aside to pay off the incumbrance of the New Zealand Company) are to be directly re-invested in the lands, in opening up the country for settlers, and thereby to give an impetus to the working of the land system lately adopted. A portion of the money is to be employed in the purchase of territory from the aborigines.

LIVERPOOL POULTRY SHOW.—The first annual exhibition of poultry opened at Lucas's Carriage Repository, Liverpool, on Wednesday. Although as regards numbers, the Birmingham show was greater than the Liverpool, the opinion was generally expressed that the latter surpassed it in quality. The birds were placed in double tiers, securing an avenue for promenade. There were 1300 fowls entered for show, contributed from all parts of the country; amongst which may be mentioned Captain Hornby's black Spanish fowls Mr. Gilbert W. Moss's bantams, Mr. Worra's celebrated Rouen ducks (which have obtained seven first class medals), and the equally celebrated Cochins fowls of Messrs. Stowe and C. Ransom. The judges of the fowls were Mr. Bailey, of Mount-street, London, and Mr. Hewitt, of Birmingham.

SINGULAR SCENE ON DERWENT LAKE.—A singular scene was witnessed on Derwent Lake during the late frost. Whilst hundreds were amusing themselves skating, sliding, shuffling along as best they might on clogs, aided by pike-staffs, and in the merry dance, numbers were engaged fishing for perch through holes which they had broken in the ice. The severity of the frost may be imagined from the fact that the ice was twelve inches in thickness. The practice of fishing in this way by dropping a line, baited with worm, through a hole in the ice, is not unusual; yet we should not be disposed to envy the angler his enjoyment while thus standing unmovable, in the hope of a nibble, throughout a winter's day, with the temperature within a few degrees of zero.

DISTRESS IN IRELAND.—Notwithstanding the enormous decrease in the population of Ireland, the poor are evidently in a state of great distress, owing to the dearth of provisions. The *Limerick Reporter* speaks of the appearance of the poor in that city as nearly as bad as in the memorable years 1846-7-8. On the last board-day 300 applicants were received into the Limerick union workhouse; and, to judge by the crowds of beggars that fill the streets, the *Reporter* is of opinion that hundreds more will have to seek a refuge within the workhouse walls before the lapse of another week. The labouring classes are not much better off than those who are forced into the poor-house. With the exception of a few establishments, the wages given does not average more than 1s. 4d. a day. In one or two cases it amounts to 1s. 6d. a day.

DESTRUCTION OF THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AT TOTTENHAM.—A fire broke out in the Roman Catholic Schools, Lower Tottenham, on Wednesday forenoon, which ended in the complete destruction of the building. By the time the London fire-engines arrived, the flames had seized upon the next house, called Dawson's Academy, and it was with the utmost difficulty they succeeded in preventing it from being destroyed also. Even with all their exertions the roof was burned off the academy, and the rest of the building was considerably damaged. The origin of the fire is supposed to have been the overheating of a stove.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, TAKEN DURING THE WEEK ENDING THURSDAY, JAN. 19.

Month and Day.	Corrected Reading of Barometer at 9 A.M.	Thermometer.		Mean Temperature of the Day.	Departure of Temperature from Average.	Degree of Humidity.	Direction of Wind.	Melted Snow and Rain in Inches.
		Highest Reading.	Lowest Reading.					
Jan. 13	29.671	43.8	35.0	39.0	+ 3.5	86	S.S.E.	0.02
" 14	29.680	45.5	30.0	37.4	+ 1.7	89	S.S.E.	0.08
" 15	29.655	41.4	32.0	36.5	+ 0.7	95	N.E.	0.00
" 16	29.647	47.8	35.5	41.4	+ 5.4	91	N.E. & S.	0.08
" 17	29.996	49.4	43.3	46.2	+ 10.0	90	S.	0.01
" 18	30.156	49.9	45.4	47.0	+ 10.6	87	S.	0.00
" 19	30.061	40.0	33.4	36.2	- 0.3	99	S.E. CALM	0.00

Note.—The sign + denotes above the average, and the sign - below the average.

The reading of the barometer increased from 29.70 inches at the beginning of the week, to 29.77 inches by the afternoon of the 14th; decreased to 29.68 inches by the morning of the 15th; increased to 30.24 inches by 11 a.m. on the 18th; decreased to 30.20 by 2 p.m., and increased to 30.22 inches by 7 p.m. on the same day; and decreased to 29.98 inches by the end of the week. The mean for the week was 29.862 inches.

The mean daily temperatures have varied from 0.3° below to 10.6° above their average values. The mean daily temperature of the 18th was 47°, and is the highest mean daily temperature recorded on that day since the year 1828, when it was 51.1°.

The mean temperature of the week was 40.6°, being 4.5° above the average of the corresponding week during thirty-eight years.

The range of temperature during the week was 19.9°, being the difference between the lowest reading on the 14th, and the highest on the 18th.

The mean daily range of temperature during the week was 2°. The greatest was 15.4° on the 14th, and the least 4.4° on the 18th.

Rain fell four days during the week to the depth of rather more than one-tenth of an inch.

The weather on the 13th and 14th was fair, and the sky almost cloudless; from that time the weather has been dull, the sky almost wholly overcast, the air has been in gentle motion only, and fog was prevalent on the 19th.

Lewisham, 20th January, 1854.

JAMES GLAISHER.

HEALTH OF LONDON.—The number of births registered within the week ending January 14 was 1768, the largest number of any in the corresponding week of the preceding nine years; the number most nearly approaching to this was in 1851, when it was 1580. Of the births 893 were boys, and 875 were girls, the averages of the same week in nine years was 722 and 689 respectively. The number of deaths registered in the same period was 1492; in the ten corresponding weeks of the preceding ten years the average number was 1147, which, increased in proportion to the increase of population, becomes 1262; the excess, therefore, above the calculated amount, is 230—indicating clearly that though the extreme rigour of the weather has passed, its effects continue to be felt in increasing mortality. The number of deaths at three different periods of life were 643 under fifteen years, 398 above sixty, and 448 between these ages: these numbers exceed the corrected average by one-third in aged persons, one-fourth in children, and one-fifth nearly in the prime of life. Nearly all classes of disease are in excess, but chiefly those of the respiratory organs, the number of deaths to be attributed to which is 385 (corrected average 296): of these, 184 belong to bronchitis (average 117), 114 to pneumonia (average 116). The number attributed to tubercular diseases was 171 (average 140): of these, 161 belong to consumption (average 146). Hooping-cough destroyed 73 lives. There were 12 fatal cases of small-pox; and two cases of cholera, but neither was of a malignant type.

THE DISMISSAL OF MR. GAY.—A meeting of the medical profession was held at the Hanover-square Rooms, on Wednesday, to take into consideration the conduct of the managing committee of the Free Hospital Gray's Inn-road, in summarily dismissing Mr. Gay from his office of surgeon. The meeting was numerous and respectfully attended, and was presided over by Dr. Copland. Mr. Ludlow acted as secretary, and read letters sympathising with the object of the meeting from a number of medical gentlemen; after which he read a statement of the case of Mr. Gay. Mr. Campbell de Morgan moved:—"That this meeting desires to record, in the most marked manner, its conviction that Mr. Gay had been guilty of no act which called for interference in any manner whatever on the part of the governors of a hospital; and that the dismissal from a hospital of a medical officer who has faithfully discharged the duties of his office, and against whose moral conduct and professional ability no charge can be brought (as appears in the present instance to be the case), is an act in the highest degree oppressive and unjustifiable." Seconded by Dr. Webber (Norwich), and carried unanimously. Mr. Jordan (of the Manchester Infirmary) moved:—"That the dismissal of Mr. Gay by the Royal Free Hospital is not only unjust and oppressive to that gentleman as an individual, but, if allowed to be adopted as a precedent, will prove as injurious to the interests of hospitals in general as it is insulting to the profession at large." In his opinion, the managing committee had acted precipitately, and should be given an opportunity of retracting their steps. Mr. Pollock (St. George's) supported the resolution, which was also carried unanimously. The proceedings terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE STATUES IN THE NEW HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT.—During the last two or three weeks several statues have been placed on the archway leading from the entrance to the House of Commons in Old Palace-yard, through the Marble Hall, to the Vestibule of the House of Commons. Among the statues are those of William the Conqueror, William Rufus, Stephen Earl of Blois, Henry II., Richard Cœur de Lion, and King John.

TESTIMONIAL TO DANIEL WHITTLE HARVEY, Esq.—The City Police have resolved to present their Commissioner with a piece of plate, as a testimonial to him for his late efforts in obtaining an increase of pay and for his general care of their interests.

ENTERING LANDSMEN FOR THE NAVY.—By command of the Lords of the Admiralty, placards were extensively circulated on Tuesday throughout the metropolis, inviting landmen to enter for the Royal Navy. The description of men to be entered is as follows:—They must be between nineteen and twenty-four, active, stout, and able-bodied; five feet seven inches in height, and in all respects healthy and fit for the naval service; the preference being given to those who have been used to boats. In addition to the Royal Naval Rendezvous on Tower-hill, and the *Crocodile*, receiving-ship, off the Tower, men will be received and entered by their making application on board the flag-ships at any of the naval ports, or at the rendezvous at Liverpool and Bristol, and at the agents for transport at Leith. The ships now manning are the *Diamond*, *Boscawen*, *Junco*, *Princess Royal*, *Frolic*, *Duke of Wellington*, *St. Jean d'Acre*, *Medea*, and *Cyclops*.

FURTHER ADVANCE IN THE PRICE OF BREAD.—The bakers of the metropolis made a further advance in the price of bread on Wednesday. Bread of the second quality, which was selling at 9d. and 10d. per 4 lb. loaf, cannot be obtained for less than 10d. and 11d. per 4 lb. respectively; country or household bread (unweighed), 8d. to 9d. per loaf. The League bakery continue the price of 10d. per 4 lb. loaf, and 9d. per loaf, of country bread, unweighed.

FRIGHTFUL ACCIDENT IN OLD BROAD-STREET.—Another accident, attended with loss of life, took place on Monday, on the premises in Old Broad-street formerly used as the Inland Revenue Office. About four o'clock in the afternoon, the people in that neighbourhood were alarmed by a noise resembling the discharge of a park of artillery, repeated three times in rapid succession. On rushing to the spot from which the noise proceeded, it was found that a great portion of the old Excise-office running parallel with Broad-street had fallen; and, as there were 200 workmen employed in the building, it was thought that a great loss of life must have taken place. The rumour was that fourteen persons had been killed, and twenty wounded; and so strong was the impression as to the extent of the damage to human life, that an extra ward was fitted up at St. Bartholomew's Hospital for the wounded. It turned out, however, that the statement on that head had been greatly exaggerated. Two persons were killed, and only five so severely injured as to require to be taken to the hospital. The accident is said to have been caused by the giving way of the supports of the flooring on the fourth story, the timbers of which were much decayed with the dry rot.

FIRE AND NARROW ESCAPE OF MANY PERSONS.—A fire took place on Wednesday night, between ten and eleven, on the premises of Mr. Feroy, hat manufacturer, New-street, Covent-garden, which jeopardised the lives of from twenty-five to thirty persons. When the fire was first discovered, a woman who occupied the second floor—the mother of five children—seeing the smoke rushing up the stairs, caught hold of the two that were nearest, and carried them down to the street, with the intention of going back for the other three; but the fire had become so strong that she could not. Fortunately, the Chandos-street engine came up at that moment; and Cooper, the sub-engineer, having learned from the poor woman that three of her children were still in the house, rushed up stairs through the flame and smoke, laid hold of two children whom he found on the stairs—one under each arm—and was hurrying down with them, when he heard another child crying. He returned back a few steps, made the child jump on his back, and brought all three off in safety. Merryweather's fire-escape was then brought from Bow-street, and a number of persons in the higher part of the house were enabled by its aid to escape from a horrible death. The whole of Mr. Feroy's stock was destroyed, and considerable damage was done to the property of the different lodgers.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.—The following Ministerial circular has been issued:—"Chatham-place, Jan. 9.—Sir,—The meeting of Parliament having been fixed for Tuesday, the 31st inst., and the present situation of public affairs rendering a full attendance peculiarly desirable, I take the liberty of earnestly requesting your presence on that day.—I have the honour to be, sir, your faithful and obedient servant, J. RUSSELL."

THE SPEECH.—The Queen's Speech will be read by Lord Aberdeen at the State banquet, to be given by his Lordship on Monday week, to a party of Members of the Upper House, comprising all the officers of her Majesty's household that are Peers, the Cabinet Ministers having seats in the House of Lords, together with the mover and seconder of the Address. A Privy Council will be held previously the same day, at which the Queen's sanction of the Royal Speech will be obtained.

TEMPERANCE AND THE WORKING CLASSES.—At the fifth monthly meeting of the National Temperance Society, held in the Whittington Club, on Monday night—Mr. S. C. Hall in the chair—J. Groves, coal-whipper; W. Green, warehouseman; A. Robinson, paper-stainer; and T. Munday, blacksmith's hammerman, delivered addresses in favour of total abstinence from all intoxicating drinks. The chief points illustrated and enforced by the various speakers were, the compatibility of entire abstinence from such liquors, with the severest mental and manual labour, the valuable domestic and religious benefit which that practice was calculated to ensure, and the important influence which its universal adoption would exercise in settling to the advantage of all parties the vexing question now at issue between employers and the employed.

SOUTH SEA COMPANY.—On Thursday a meeting of this Company was held, to consider the bill proposed to be brought before Parliament in the ensuing session, for winding-up the affairs of the Company—in consequence of the measures of the Chancellor of the Exchequer—and converting it into an association for the management of trusts. The Sub-Governor, C. Franks, Esq., occupied the chair, and moved a resolution approving the bill. Some discussion took place, in which many of the shareholders expressed their opinion that the bill ought to be confined to the one purpose of authorising the winding-up of the Company. The Sub-Governor assured them that their best interests would be looked to by the Directors; and reminded them that those who wished it, might be paid off at £109 for every £100 stock. An amendment was proposed, confining the bill to the one purpose, which was negatived by 29 to 19—12 of the Directors voting in the majority. The original resolution was then declared to be carried.

LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK.—On Thursday the half-yearly meeting of this Company was held at the Banking-house; Alderman Sir James Duke in the chair. The report stated that the accounts for the half year to the 31st ult. showed a net profit for the half year of £50,695 0s. 7d., which was to be added to £7540 3s., undivided profit of the previous half year—making a total of £58,235 3s. 7d. Of this sum the directors proposed to apply £24,000 for a dividend, at the rate of 8 per cent per annum, and £34,000 to a bonus of 11s. 4d. per £10 share; leaving £245 3s. 7d. to be carried to the reserve fund, which now amounts to £151,279 19s. 6d. The report was adopted, and the dividend and bonus (which together amount to 13½ per cent for the year) declared.

THE BRITISH MUSEUM READING ROOM.—The state of the atmosphere was indescribably oppressive—the smells as bad as I have sometimes known them to be in a crowded Methodist meeting-house—the whole insufferably hot and close. To throw off one's coats, cloaks, &c., is a matter of course, which no one omits; but who can escape the Museum head-ache? If not, sir, for the sake of poor authors and authoresses, surely for the sake of the officials something might be done. I question whether there be a room in all London more likely to occasion the visitation of disease than this most pestiferous apartment.—*Letter in the Times.*

TESTIMONIAL.—On Thursday week, Mr. J. Thwaites, of the borough of Southwark, was entertained at dinner, at the Bridge House Hotel, London-bridge, and presented with a purse of 280 sovereigns, and a tea-service for Mrs. Thwaites. The superb gift, which has been manufactured by Messrs. Benson, of Cornhill, is the result of a subscription originated by the Surrey Gas Association, as a testimonial for his valuable services in promoting the movement in favour of cheap gas. The meeting was presided over by Thomas Pocock, Esq.; and amongst the gentlemen present were Messrs. W. B. James, J. Wade, E. Kingsford, and Mr. ex-Sheriff Croll. The latter gentleman stated that the consumption of gas now, in one night, was equal to a week's consumption in 1847.

GREAT FLOOD AT DONCASTER.

Owing to the rapid thawing of the snow, the inhabitants of the lower part of Doncaster, lying in the valley of the river Don, were surprised on Wednesday with one of the greatest floods that has occurred in that town for the last 60 years. The water in the river began to rise on Tuesday night; but it was not until Wednesday morning, at about four o'clock, that it began to encroach on the houses in Marshgate, which extends at a right angle to the course of the stream. The inhabitants of that street, mostly workmen and labourers, then found it necessary to take measures for the safety of their household goods, while the owners of houses and cattle in sheds and pastures in the neighbourhood as promptly removed them. By 11 a.m. every house in the street was flooded—a circumstance which has not occurred at any previous inundation within recollection. The water in some of the cottages was between two and three feet deep. All the inhabitants were in their upper chambers. Their furniture was floating about in the rooms below, or in the street, and communication could only be kept up by carts and waggons and ladders. At two o'clock the water was still rising; it rushed through the courts and alleys in the street with great impetuosity, overflowed the canal lock, against which a large mass of ice was lodged, and was only prevented from rising above the north bank of the river by a number of labourers piling up sods as fast as it rose. Mr. Carr, the resident engineer of the Great Northern Railway Company, had a staff of "navvies" employed in filling up the angles of the pile-bridge of the line over the flood-dike, to prevent the water washing down the railway. At three o'clock the flood had not begun to recede, though it was hoped the falling of the full tide which held up the stream at Sandall would admit of its abating in the course of two or three hours. The weight of water above the town, however, was very considerable. In the field in Marshgate it was seven or eight feet deep at the least, and was bursting through the wall next the pavement in countless streams.

BREAD RIOT IN SOMERSETSHIRE.—The borough of Taunton was on Saturday last the scene of a most disgraceful tumult, occasioned by a large number of men and women parading the streets, armed with sticks and stones, and visiting the market houses for the avowed purpose of reducing the price of provisions. The movement originated among a few fellows, who emerged from a neighbouring beerhouse for the purpose of making a disturbance, which they expressed their determination of doing "like the Devonshire lads." About twelve o'clock they entered the corn-market, where they were joined by a number of women, who had assembled at the corners of the streets to discuss the high price of food. The mob collected round a farmer, who offered a quantity of wheat, of a very inferior description, at 8s 6d. per bushel, and, as he refused to reduce the price for what they considered an article scarcely fit for pigs, they emptied the sacks and scattered the corn about the market. The police were now called upon, but they were totally unable to check the spirit of the rioters. The mob next proceeded to the butter-market, completely upset everything, and forced the market-women to sell their butter at 1s. per pound—a reduction of from 4d. to 5d. on the original price. The butchers' shambles were also visited, and the greatest confusion prevailed; a number of stones were thrown at the stalls, and the butchers commenced packing up as speedily as possible. The magistrates interfered, and no further disturbance took place. The women congregated in front of the bakers' shops, and assailed the proprietors with threatening language, but, a large number of special constables having been sworn in, they went with the magistrates to the spot and dispersed the mob.

THE LATE AWFUL GALES.—At the weekly meeting of the committee of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society, held on Friday, the 13th inst., the committee considered one hundred and ninety-one cases, consisting of the claims of widows and orphans and shipwrecked mariners applying for relief, on the ground of the loss of their husbands and fathers, and to help to restore their clothes lost in the late gales. Various sums were dispensed to the sufferers; and the secretary reported three or four crews a day arriving at the office from different points of the coast, whom he had despatched, and that the pressure on the society at this time was greater than it had been since it was instituted. Upwards of 36,000 mariners subscribe 2s. 6d. annually in aid of the society's funds.

RAILWAY COLLISION.—The night express of the Great Northern Company, which leaves King's Cross at 9.15 p.m., and arrives at Edinburgh at 9 a.m. the following morning, when a little way from York, last Sunday morning, came into violent contact with a coal train which was crossing the line towards the branch to Knaresborough. The mineral train was completely cut in two, one of the trucks passing over the engine of the passenger train, and greatly damaging it. The driver and stoker, who were not aware of the danger until the moment of the collision, jumped off the engine and thus escaped. The shock almost destroyed a first-class passenger carriage, containing three or four travellers, who were all severely hurt, but no limbs were broken. Two other carriages were also much damaged, and the passengers in them sustained various bruises. The obstruction, which completely blocked up both lines, was removed in two or three hours, and a fresh engine and set of carriages having in the meantime been prepared, the passengers resumed their journey.

A sharper has been victimising the hotel proprietors of Brighton, Worthing, &c., by assuming the names of Lieutenant Pennington and Lord Muncaster.

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